

How to Move House

Simple Tips, Tricks and Links
for Anyone Moving House

Written by

Pamela Hatswell

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What the reviewers said...

“I’ve had to do my own share of moves over the years and like most people learned what to do the hard way. This book is a must for anyone making a move.”

Ed Lincoln - Publishing Consultant

“This is just the kind of work we set up The Endless Bookcase for - someone like Pamela Hatswell with valuable experiences of dealing with one of life’s challenges sharing with others the lessons she’s learned. Although some of what it tells you may seem obvious and common sense it’s surprising how often people miss such things until it’s too late.”

Carl French - Editor

Are you...

- about to buy a home?
- leaving rented accommodation?
- selling your home?
- going to live abroad?
- moving into a new home near your family?
- moving into rented accommodation?
- a student leaving home for university accommodation?
- a student “living out” for the first time?
- or leaving your home to move into warden assisted accommodation or a care home?
- or – something else?

In all cases, this little guide might just help you get through a stressful occasion.

Please note:

I am not going to discuss matters relating to estate agents, surveyors, solicitors or mortgage advisors, but I am going to talk about practical things you can be doing both before and after your move.

At the end of the booklet I have provided a check list and I hope that if you think of anything else you will let me know so that this information keeps up to date and informative for all situations.

About the Author



Pamela Hatswell moved to London and started sharing a flat straight after College. Flatmates came and went and flats were exchanged for better ones to match her income until she married an RAF pilot and moved with the postings. When the marriage ended she moved again and then re-married and moved. Her husband was made redundant and – they moved - to run a family business. The business was sold and this necessitated another move until finally she found her present home and fulfilled her wish to live by the sea, in sunshine and work from home.

More at the back.....



Illustrations by David Banks of Colchester (@bankscartoons)

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Why move all your stuff?

"There is no reason why anyone would want to have a computer in their home."

- Ken Olson, president, chairman and founder of Digital Equipment Corp, 1977.

How times change, so from having tower systems and a fixed computer sitting on a desk, we are now working with smart phones and maybe laptops and a lot of APPS.

What do you need to take with you when you move? Start early.



1. About to buy a home

*Apparently one of the answers from the quiz show
Family Fortunes:*

Q. Something you might find in a garage

A. "A grand piano..."



It is an exciting time – you have found the home you want.

You have started the process of buying a home but at times it seems as though the process is taking so long!

So what can you do while you are waiting?

Do you have bubble wrap and packing tape and a marker pen?

Go through all the stuff that you are intending to take with you (as opposed to what will be staying for the new occupants) and sort it into four groups which are:- rubbish, no longer needed, going to charity, leaving the rest to be taken to your new home.

Rubbish needs to be taken to the dump pre-sorted. Do you need to book a slot under the new rules?

No longer needed – but you don't just want to dump it, you want to find it a “good home”, someone that will be enthusiastic about your stuff. So try auction sites on line, take photographs, be honest about its condition, put postcards up in your local newsagent or supermarket. When you are auctioning items you have to post them quickly to the buyer, so don't have too many ending on the same day, but place a couple each day over a period of a week and then remember when the sale is ending so that you are able to check online and see where it has to be sent. Do you have packing materials and bubble wrap?

Going to charity – these items need to be in good condition so clothes need to be washed, ironed or dry cleaned and electrical items need to be working. (But only some places will allow electrical goods). If you have the instructions or care leaflet for an item it helps to include this.

So now everything is tidy – you have cleaned the cupboards and minimised what you have around the house. You have cleared out all the old paperwork you no longer need I hope? Perhaps now is the time to go back over that paperwork, including your bank statements and credit card statements, because you need a list of all the people who have to be told about your change of address. You need to keep this list until you have

exchanged contracts and have a moving date – you can have all the letters/emails ready to go, but there is a certain order that will help you.



One bonus, your passport does not need be changed, but you will have to change your driving licence or else risk a fine, your car registration document, you will have to let the bank know very quickly so that your debit card still works and your credit card(s) also need to be kept up to date.

Your employer, doctor, dentist, insurance companies for house and car – do you have annual holiday insurance? – that too!

So start with the bank in order to keep your debit and credit cards working. The car documents are also important.