

Moving into a new home



There are lots of things to think about when you're moving house. This checklist helps you keep track of the things you need to do.

Safety

- Find out where the trip switches, water and gas mains valves are, as you may need to turn them off in an emergency.
- Check that all the windows and doors lock securely.
- Check that the property has enough smoke and CO2 alarms.
- Check that there's a fire blanket in the kitchen
- Check that all gas and electrical appliances are safe.
- Work out how to get out in an emergency.

Things to do

- Get insurance. If you are renting, you will only need insurance for your belongings. If you own your home, you will need buildings insurance as well.
- Register with the gas/electricity companies. To find out the gas supplier, call 0870 160 0229. For electricity, call 0870 900 9690 in North Scotland or 0845 270 9101 in South Scotland
- Get the telephone connected in your name. Dial 150 to arrange this.
- Register for council tax. Remember, if you're under 18 or a student you don't have to pay council tax. Don't forget to fill in an exemption form and get it stamped by the university/college. You can usually pick up this form from your university. If you live alone you can claim a single person discount of 25%.
- Register to vote at www.aboutmyvote.co.uk.
- Register with a new doctor and dentist. You can use the Yellow Pages to find surgeries in your area, or ask around for recommendations. You can also call NHS 24 on 08454 24 24 24 for details of your nearest GP's surgery.
- Get a TV licence. Find out more at the TV licensing website: www.tvlicensing.co.uk.
- Find out when your rubbish will be collected, where you need to leave your bags or bins and where you can store rubbish in between collections.

People to contact

Make sure everybody has your new address and telephone number so they can contact you. Don't forget to tell:

- friends and family
- your bank or building society and credit card supplier
- your insurer
- your employer
- your school, university or college, or your children's nursery or school
- your doctor, dentist, optician and any other medical practitioner or centre
- the relevant agencies for any benefits you are claiming, for example the Jobcentre or Pension Service.
- the Driving and Vehicle Licensing Agency, to change the address on your driving licence – you can do this online at <http://www.direct.gov.uk/drivinglicence>

Remember to contact any other companies with whom you have a contract or who send you regular information, for example:

- your mobile phone supplier
- your internet service provider
- any stores with which you have credit cards or reward cards
- any magazines you subscribe to
- any charities you donate to
- any clubs or societies you belong to
- your gym.



TIP! To save time, register at www.iammoving.com. You can also ask the Post Office to redirect your mail.