

Amor

REMOVALS

Amor Removals top moving tips to ease the stress levels...

Having appointed lawyers and set surveys and searches in motion, you've now had your offer accepted. The exchange date is fast approaching... so what do you do about packing up your worldly belongings and shifting them from A to B?

Here are Amor Removals top tips to ease the stress levels. Follow each step and you will create a manageable time frame to achieve all your goals! ***It is well worth printing off the tips sheet and keeping it close to hand!***

1 month to go (or as soon as you know you are moving)

Moving all your goods can give you the opportunity to pull things out of the loft you haven't seen for years or even that gym equipment that has seized up. With your hands to every item, moving can be a good time to de-clutter. Remember items that you no longer have use for might be just the piece someone else is in need of and also a way to generate a little extra cash. Sell, donate and recycle any unwanted items before you move.

Selling on eBay UK couldn't be easier. Amor top tip: to get the best price set up a ten day auction starting on a Thursday evening at 20:00. Doing this will attract the largest buying audience by spreading the advert over two weekends and ending on a Sunday at 20:00 when the highest number of people are trawling to buy on the internet. Gumtree, Facebook, Amazon, friends/family, Freecycle, charities and your local council collection service are all other available options.

Moving to a new area might affect the availability of some services that you currently receive - telephone, TV, internet, milkman, gas and electric. Make sure you when transferring accounts to your new address you check whether the service is available and how long it will take to install. If you do need to cancel a service then check your suppliers contracts as you might need to give a period of notice.

We advise that you speak to us 4 – 6 weeks before your proposed move date, so that you are more likely to be prepared for short notice completions and rescheduling a removal date. If you have a shorter amount of time to arrange a removal date then let us know and we will do our utmost to fit you into our schedule.

3 weeks before moving house



Make a list of companies, subscriptions and people you need to notify – it will take a few hours to notify everyone online, on the phone or by post, so **Amor Top Tip:** tackle the task in stages and tick them off your list. Utility companies can be updated on moving day when you update your meter readings.

Contact the Royal Mail to set up a post redirection. You can sign up online or go to the local post office. Catching anything that slips through the net is worth the small expense.

Notify insurance policies and your bank to ensure post is transferred to your new home address.

2 weeks before moving house



List those items you will need on your first night in your new home (bedding, bathroom/kitchen essentials, homework, important documents, valuables) and **Amor Top Tip:** set aside an 'essentials box' to be loaded last (whether with us or in your own car) and unpacked first on arrival.

Research Doctors and Dentists in your new area and notify your current services of your move.

Make arrangements for your children and pets on moving day. If they will be present make sure for their own safety that they are occupied and kept safely out of the way of the movers.

1 week before moving house

- ✓ Gather all the appliance manuals and keys that the new inhabitants will need.
- ✓ Assign jobs to everyone present on the day – checking cupboards are empty, walking the dog, collecting keys, saying goodbyes, etc.

1 day before moving house

- ✓ Finish your last bits of packing, collecting all the bits and bobs that are lying around the house.
- ✓ Take away the recycling and rubbish.

Moving Day 😊

- ✓ **Amor Top Tip:** Take gas, electricity and water meter readings in both properties.
- ✓ Stay calm, have lots of tea breaks and keep your energy up!
- ✓ Relax in the care and professionalism of **Amor REMOVALS** and enjoy the day



PACKING TIPS

Amor Top Tip: There are a few items that you will need to keep handy, both during packing and the move.

Scissors and Marker Pens - It is important that when you are packing you know what is inside each box! Label the boxes according to the rooms that they are going to as opposed to the room that they have come from. This helps to make the delivery more organised and stress-free. After all, if your new property has a different layout than your old one, it is hard to keep up with two or three removal men all asking where their boxes are to be delivered to once you get to your new home!

Kettle, Mugs and Teabags - It sounds a bit cheeky, but Moving is Thirsty Work! Removal men get dehydrated because their job is physical. They need to replace the liquid that they lose during the day and the best way of doing this is by drinking lots of tea. This way they'll get through the job even quicker!

Cleaning Equipment - Make sure that the last items to be packed are the vacuum cleaner, cleaning cloths, polish and dusters. No matter how clean your house is, you will be amazed at how dirty it can be after a house move. Moving furniture that has been in place for years can leave dirty marks on the floor that even the cleanest person didn't know were there!



Amor Top Tip: **The best thing you can do when organising any house move is to start packing early!** If you are doing your own packing start with items that you will not need before the move - books, DVDs etc. Break the task down into achievable amounts so it's not overwhelming. It is very important for a trouble free move that all your packing is complete before the removal team arrive.

Bedrooms - Beds

Make sure that all beds are dismantled and the pieces are labelled and tied together so that you know how it goes back together at the new property. **Amor Top Tip:** Make sure you keep the Allen Key handy as you will need to put it back together for your first night's sleep. Pack away any bed linen from the drawers so that the bed can be manoeuvred easily.

Chest of Drawers

Amor Removals don't mind if you leave the drawers full during the move. However, this will depend on how heavy and sturdy the chests of drawers are, the access out of the house and what kind of move you are having. For example, if you are moving overseas you will need to empty all drawers and cupboards so that the removal crew can make a full inventory of your items. Also, smaller, loose items should always be covered over to make sure that they don't get damaged or fall out all over the floor! Please check with us beforehand.

Hanging Clothes

We provide hanging wardrobe cartons with rails for hanging clothes, so you won't have to iron everything after your move. However, if you are moving overseas, then we may advise against using these so that you don't add extra volume to your shipment. If this is the case, your clothes should be packed into our long thin cartons to avoid as many creases as possible. After all, they may be in there some time!

Chests and Trunks

Bedroom chests are perfect for keeping lightweight items in whilst moving. However, please make sure that you do not overfill them and that you can move them fairly easily.

Jewellery, Money and Bonds

For peace of mind we advise that you should either lock jewellery in a box or keep it with you whilst you are moving. The same goes with money, bonds, stocks, shares and any other item of great value. If you do have very valuable items please discuss this with us because we will then be able to inform our insurers so that they are covered on our policy.

Lounge/Dining Room - Televisions, Etc.

Although big and bulky, televisions are obviously fairly delicate so if you have the original packaging, that's great! Make sure you know how to wire up your equipment again. *Amor Top Tip:* Take photos of the wiring before dismantling and keep all the wires together.

Bookcases and Cabinets

Empty all cupboards, clear all shelves. *Amor Top Tip:* Remove and wrap any glass shelving. Tape doors shut. Pack books into small boxes for easier lifting. Please ask us for book cartons as they are especially strong and durable. Please **DO NOT** pack books into big boxes - If you can't lift them, then our removal men will struggle too!

Shelving

Shelving that is to be moved must be unfixed from the wall and tied together, unless otherwise agreed. Amor Removal men always carry tools, so if you would like us to do any jobs like this, please discuss it before we arrive. Please note that, although we may remove shelving from the wall, it's not in our contract to fix it on to the walls at your new property unless previously arranged. If you would like this done, then please enquire about our "Handyman" services.

Cupboards

Tape doors shut. *Amor Top Tip:* Label keys and keep them together in a small sealable bag that safely remains with you. You don't want to have to replace locks especially on antiques.

Satellite Receivers

If necessary, phone ahead for a satellite contractor so that they can set you up in your new home ready for when you move in.

Video and DVD Players

Pack these items especially carefully. Wrap them up in blankets or sheets and place them upright in a box. If you have the original packaging, this is even better. Whichever way, make sure that they have enough padding to travel safely.

Pictures and Mirrors

Pack pictures and mirrors with extra protection and make sure that they are always standing upright. Because these items can sometimes bend or break in the middle they need to be protected by cardboard, bubble wrap or a wooden crate. Never lay them flat as the glass may well not be strong enough. Large pictures with gilt or intricate frames

must be cased. Medium size pictures should be wrapped in bubble wrap and cardboard and again, kept upright. Small pictures can be wrapped up and placed in a box with other light and fragile items, however, make sure they stand upright so that they do not bend. **Amor Top Tip:** Don't place bubble wrap or plastic in direct contact with oil paintings. Wrap them in blankets or soft material.

Armchairs and Sofas

If you have an extra-large sofa then we need to know about the access at both properties. Was it delivered into your current property without any hassle? Have you made any relevant property modifications since you moved in? If the sofa is going upstairs, how tight is the staircase? If the sofa was delivered through a window, have you had double-glazing installed since you bought it? Please discuss with us if it needs dismantling or delivering through a window in your new property - especially if the window is not on the ground floor...

Light Fittings

Remove the shades and light bulbs from lamps and pack these separately. If you have normal light fittings that hang from the ceiling, these can be wrapped and placed gently in a box with plenty of padding. Chandeliers need to be dismantled or hung and tied inside a wooden crate or box so that the glass droplets are not lost or damaged. Whenever wall or ceiling lights are to be disconnected, please ensure that an experienced and qualified electrician does the work and that ceiling roses are replaced.

Pianos

Because of their weight pianos require specialist attention - especially for anything other than a ground floor move. For above ground floor moves where there is no lift, then 3 - 4 removal men are likely to be needed. If you have a grand piano, then the pedals and the legs will need to be removed ready for the body of the piano to be moved on a piano shoe. The piano body will be wrapped either in a piano cover or padded blankets and strapped to the shoe for ease of movement. **Amor Top Tip:** Unless you have specialist experience we advise that you leave piano packing and removal to us.

Kitchen - China and Glass

When packing breakables ensure that there is adequate padding around and underneath each item. Scrunched up paper or cushions are usually a good bet. After wrapping plates, stand them upright rather than flat as they are better protected on their edge than laid flat. Label the box as fragile and ensure heavy items are not placed on it.

Lofts

Amor Removals are not permitted to remove goods from loft spaces. It is important that you remove all the items from your loft so they are ready for the removal team on the day of your move.

Teapots

Teapots are especially fragile because of the lid, spout, and handle. Wrap the lid separately and replace it, inverted if possible, in the tea top. Ensure that the spout and handle are well protected. Stand upright in the box.

Knives and Sharp Objects

Amor Top Tip: It is important that these items have plenty of padding around them and are then labelled as sharps so that when they are unpacked there are no injuries.

Pots and Pans

Once wrapped, large and heavy items should be packed into suitably sized boxes to ensure the box weight is kept down. **Amor Top Tip:** Remember the Rule of Thumb - if you can't lift them, the removal men will struggle too.

Microwaves

Take the glass plate out and wrap it separately. Pack the microwave in its original box if available. Tell us if you don't have a box large enough so we can safely load it onto the van.

Large Appliances

Ideally washing machines and tumble dryers should have the rotating drum secured with the fixing bolt supplied. Keep the appliance upright. Empty as much water from inside them as possible, especially if they are going into store. (This applies to any item that can contain water). This will minimise the chance of spillage onto other items and reduce the occurrence of mould.

Fridges and Freezers

If you are moving only a short distance - up to half an hour - then by all means keep food in your freezer. **Amor Top Tip:** Set your freezer to lowest temperature the day before. If the journey to your new home takes longer than half an hour, get the contents of your freezer eaten during the preceding weeks and defrost your freezer completely at least 48 hours before it is moved, so that there are no water leaks to damage your possessions when in transit. If your appliances are going into store or

being moved overseas, make sure that the doors are kept ajar for the journey, to keep them fresh once they are delivered.

Cookers

Contact a qualified electrician or gas fitter to disconnect these items. We are not insured for this work, so please don't ask the removal crew to disconnect them for you. Clean them before you move, both inside and out! It's better to have a pristine cooker ready to go into your new kitchen.

Small Electricals

These are best moved in their original packing, however, if you don't have this then make sure that they have plenty of wrapping around them. Pack them into a medium size box ensuring it doesn't get too heavy.

Chip Pans

Amor Top Tip: Remove the fat before packing - the last thing you want is chip fat everywhere!

Foods and Drink

If you are going any distance, you will need to eat your food supply down to the bare minimum or place in a suitable cool box. Food items are not allowed in storage or overseas shipments. **Amor Top Tip:** Be aware that most alcohol is taxable in overseas shipments.

A lot to digest in one go, however follow each step and you will create a manageable time frame to achieve all your goals!

