

Ten Items Most Likely to Get Left Behind



Moving involves so many details; it isn't surprising that some things end up "falling through the cracks". As you get ready to hit the road, you may benefit from glancing over this list, from Mayflower Transfer, of the top 10 items people tend to leave behind.

- 1. Medical Records.** Your transferees should be sure to get copies of records from doctors, clinics, dentists, pharmacies (if not on a national data-base) and veterinarians. Vaccination/immunization information for pets and children may be needed during or soon after arrival. Mayflower says that in some cases, a notarized letter may be required to receive official documentation; transferees can contact the American Medical Records Association to find out about their state's procedure.
- 2. School Records.** These will be required when registering children for their new schools. Many schools will not accept copies, but will want original records with a raised seal (a good thing to have long term anyway). School policy may be to forward records directly to the new school.
- 3. Old Phone Numbers.** Phone books from the old town will come in handy to tie up loose ends from the new location and to contact old friends and acquaintances.
- 4. Items Awaiting Pick-Up.** Check dry cleaners, pharmacies, and other businesses you have orders with to make sure all orders have been picked up.
- 5. Forwarding Address.** Give everyone in the family a written note with the new address and phone number (if you have it) so they can give it to friends, associates, etc. Having it handy will help when arranging to forward periodicals, credit card bills, mail, etc.
- 6. Last-Minute Cleaning Supplies.** Leave behind what you'll need for cleaning touch-ups after everything has been moved out, or make arrangements to borrow what you need from neighbors. Better yet, hire a cleaning service to take care of the final cleaning for you.
- 7. Garage-Door Opener.** As most people keep this in their car, it often travels to the new location. Be sure to leave it behind with the old home.
- 8. Pets.** The risk is not about forgetting to take them, but about making arrangements early enough to get them to the new home. Airlines restrict pet shipping beyond certain temperature ranges and spaces are often limited. Alternative modes of transportation may have to be considered.
- 9. Safe-Deposit Boxes.** Remember to empty the contents. Another banking note: Establish a new checking account in the new location to ensure immediate access to your funds.
- 10. Keys.** Gather all spare house keys—from family members, outdoor hiding places, neighbors, pet sitters, etc.—and label them for the new residents.