

Toronto Moving Checklist & Timeline

A practical reference for Toronto and GTA moves. Check off each task as you prepare.

Moving date: _____ Pickup time: _____

Origin elevator: _____ Destination elevator: _____

6-8 weeks before moving: plan the move

- ☐ Choose your moving date and confirm when you can collect the keys. If the dates do not line up, plan temporary storage before booking transportation.
- ☐ Make an inventory of furniture, boxes and loose items. Include storage lockers, balconies, garages and items you plan to sell or dispose of.
- ☐ Measure large furniture, doorways, stair turns and elevator openings at both properties. Flag king beds, adjustable beds, large sofas, mirrors and artwork.
- ☐ Start decluttering room by room. Arrange donations or disposal separately so unwanted items do not take up truck space.

4 weeks before moving: book movers and building access

- ☐ Confirm the crew size, truck size, hourly or flat pricing, minimum charge, travel time, supplies, tax, deposit and cancellation terms.
- ☐ Contact management at both buildings. Reserve the service elevator and loading area, and ask about permitted moving hours, deposits, floor protection and any required Certificate of Insurance.
- ☐ Coordinate the destination elevator with loading and travel time. The crew's start time at your old home is different from its arrival time at your new building.
- ☐ Arrange utility and internet changes, and make a list of organizations that need your updated address.

For budgeting and quote factors, see our [Toronto moving costs guide](#). For building-specific moves, visit our [Toronto condo moving services](#).

Pack and prepare

2 weeks before moving: pack and check access

- ☐ Pack infrequently used belongings first. Label each box with its destination room and a short description; mark fragile items clearly.
- ☐ Use small boxes for books and other heavy items. Keep boxes manageable, close them securely and avoid overfilled lids.
- ☐ Plan protection for TVs, artwork, mirrors and mattresses. Tell your movers about missing TV boxes or oversized glass before moving day.
- ☐ Confirm whether you need packing help, wardrobe boxes, mattress bags or furniture disassembly, and ask which materials carry a separate charge.
- ☐ Check truck clearance, loading dock dimensions and the walking distance from the truck to each entrance. An underground garage may not accommodate a moving truck.
- ☐ Arrange legal truck parking with the building or property owner. Do not assume a loading area or street space will be available.

1 week before moving: confirm the details

- ☐ Send any changes to your inventory to the moving company. Extra furniture, boxes or a second pickup can change the time and quote.
- ☐ Reconfirm elevator reservations, access codes, loading instructions and a contact person at each property.
- ☐ Photograph cable connections before unplugging electronics. Bag and label remotes, cables and furniture hardware.
- ☐ Prepare an essentials bag with medication, identification, chargers, toiletries, a change of clothes and important documents. Keep valuables with you.
- ☐ Arrange care for children and pets so walkways remain clear and the crew can work safely.
- ☐ Ask before leaving items in dresser drawers. Empty heavy or fragile contents; tall or delicate furniture may need to be completely emptied.

The final 48 hours & moving day

24-48 hours before moving: finish packing

- ☐ Finish packing unless you have booked packing services. Loose items and open boxes can slow loading and are harder to protect.
- ☐ Keep cleaning supplies and your essentials bag separate from the load. Check cupboards, appliances, closets, balcony areas and storage lockers.
- ☐ Prepare appliances according to manufacturer instructions. Arrange a qualified professional for any disconnection that needs specialist work.
- ☐ Confirm the arrival window, payment method and moving-day phone number with your movers.
- ☐ Clear stairs, hallways and entrances. In winter, arrange snow and ice removal; in wet weather, plan safe access and suitable floor protection.
- ☐ Discuss propane cylinders, fuel, chemicals, plants and other items needing special handling with your movers in advance.

Moving day: loading, travel and delivery

- ☐ Walk through your home with the crew before loading. Point out fragile items, existing damage, items staying behind and furniture needing disassembly.
- ☐ Show the crew the approved loading area and elevator route. Keep building management's contact details available if access changes.
- ☐ Keep keys, wallets, medication, documents and your essentials bag out of the truck.
- ☐ Before leaving, check every room and storage area, take any required meter readings and follow your building's key or fob handover instructions.
- ☐ At your new home, explain where furniture belongs and direct labelled boxes to the correct rooms.
- ☐ Check items and furniture assembly with the crew before they leave. Report any concern promptly and retain your invoice.

Settle in & plan your timing

After the move: settle in

- ☐ Set up beds and essential kitchen and bathroom items first. Unpack one room at a time.
- ☐ Check that utilities and internet work, and finish updating your address with service providers.
- ☐ Follow your building's rules for recycling boxes and disposing of packing materials.
- ☐ Keep your moving paperwork and contact the company promptly if you discover a concern while unpacking.

How to coordinate your Toronto condo elevator timeline

Book access at both properties and work backward from the destination's permitted moving window. Allow for loading at the origin, travel, traffic and unloading. Ask your movers for an estimate based on your inventory and access rather than assuming a standard elevator booking will cover the entire move.

Planning example: If loading begins at 9:00 a.m. and takes four hours, the truck will leave around 1:00 p.m. A destination elevator reservation beginning at 12:30 p.m. would start before the truck arrives. These times are illustrative; confirm your actual schedule with the crew and building management.

Tell your movers if elevator access expires at a fixed time. Waiting, long carries, stairs, furniture assembly and limited elevator availability can increase the time needed.

What to send your movers for an accurate quote

- ☐ Moving date and preferred start time.
- ☐ Pickup and delivery addresses, plus any additional stops.
- ☐ Furniture inventory, approximate box or bin count, and photos of large items.
- ☐ Floor levels, stairs, elevator reservations and loading access at both properties.
- ☐ Truck parking, height restrictions and distance from the loading area to your door.
- ☐ Packing, disassembly, reassembly, storage and special handling requirements.

Explore our apartment moving services, small moves and long-distance moving services for help planning your move.

Ready to plan your Toronto move?

Share your inventory, addresses and building access details with Top Toronto Movers so we can help you plan the crew, truck and timing.

Or email quotes@toptorontomovers.com.

[View the online checklist](#) | Updated October 2, 2026