Ultimate Guide on Making Your Home **Transition** Smoother Within Budget

ABSTRACT

Moving to a new home can be both exciting and daunting. There are many things to consider, from packing up your belongings and finding the right place to live to setting up utilities and getting acquainted with a new neighborhood. It's easy for even the best of us to become overwhelmed by all that needs to be done in such a short space of time.

Fortunately, there is help available. With careful planning and attention to detail, you can ensure your move is as stress-free as possible. This step-by-step guide will provide you with everything you need to know about successfully transitioning into your new home – from choosing an area that suits your lifestyle needs to packing efficiently and settling in quickly once you arrive at your destination.

INTRODUCTION

Do you dream of moving to a new city or state, but the thought of the expenses involved leaves you feeling overwhelmed? We understand that planning a move can be a daunting task, especially when you're on a tight budget. However, with the right strategies and a well-thought-out plan, you can successfully navigate this endeavor without breaking the bank. This ultimate guide will walk you through each step of the process, offering valuable tips and insights to help you plan a long-distance move on a budget.

I. Considering Relocating? Here's What You Need To Know.



Thinking of moving somewhere new? Here are the top trends and tips to know before you pack up your

What a difference a year makes. From the earliest lockdowns through the summer of 2021, relocation and remote work went hand-in-hand. During the first six months of 2020, temporary change-of-address requests were up almost 27%. As the year progressed, more permanent change-of-addresses requests were filed. Americans logged 7% more permanent moves between counties in 2020 than in 2019. The trend accelerated in the fall, with year-over-year increases above 10% and a peak of 28% in December.

So where did they go? If you're considering relocating, what are your options? Here are some trends and tips.

The Urban Exodus Is In Full Swing

Most cities have been losing population for years. Although immigration helped keep numbers stable, in 2020 many cities suffered a net loss of residents. In fact, in Manhattan, only one newcomer arrived for every three that left. In 2019, it was one arrival for every two movers.

Popularity Has a Price Tag

When your city felt like a 24-hour amusement park, perhaps the trade off seemed almost worth it, but when everything shut down, newly remote workers felt as if they were living in solitary confinement. That's one reason the biggest movers have been Millennials and Gen Z'ers. Over one-third of people under 25 relocated during the pandemic. Where did they go? Well, while some traded for, though the top destination was Idaho. According to Van Lines, of the total number of customers moving to or from the state, over 70% were inbound moves with less than 30% leaving. This is reflected in what people are paying for a home in the state's largest city.

The Boise's metro area's median sales price of \$488,000 in July represented a 32% increase over last year's pricing. According to a study by the Real Estate Initiative, Boise is now considered the most overpriced market in the country. Other top destinations include exurbs like Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Florida's Nassau County, and South Carolina's Berkeley County. All are over 30 miles from the closest cities of Nashville, Jacksonville, and Charlestown respectively— each has charted population increases of over 30% during the last decade.

Given the pandemic's effects, it's not surprising that moving closer to family is the top reason for relocation. But whether work or loved ones are the main factor, you owe it to yourself to do some research. If you can live anywhere, do you want to live

in a place where schools are crowded, traffic is slow, and home prices are skyrocketing?

For most people, those are reasons to move.

The challenge of course is that many popular destinations like Boise and Austin, Texas are already pretty pricey. If cost is a factor, then start looking at places off the beaten path. Tulsa, Oklahoma's second largest city, is offering up to \$10,000 along with added incentives like office space at a co-working site to relocating remote workers. Unlike some programs, you don't even need an employer — self employed folks are welcome as well. Other programs offering low-five figure incentives include include Topeka, Kansas and Morgantown, Virginia. And if you're fully remote, your money will go a lot further in a place like Morgantown, West Virginia than it will in Boise.

Of course you don't have to rely on financial incentives. There are plenty of undiscovered gems awaiting your perusal. And before you dismiss the idea, remember Portland, Boise, and Brooklyn were once "uncool" destinations as well.

II. How Much Does It Cost To Move A House?

Do you love your current home but do not want to be too close to the shoreline or want to stay away from the main roads? You can easily hire a general contractor, engineer, Perth removalists and a mason to come and lift your current home and move it to the desired spot. Even though it is a lot of work to lift an entire home, you can save your current structure and live in the area where you are comfortable.



The cost of moving a house in Perth is generally about 50% of a new building but can add up to more if there are issues like weak foundations, obstructions, large size of the building and more.

Therefore, before you decide to move your entire home, it is best to look at the costs involved and decide whether it fits your budget.

Reasons For Moving A Home

First, you must understand the reasons for moving an entire home and see if it matches your requirements.

1. Helps Preserve A Historical Home

If you have a historic home or the architecture is historical and beautiful, you should preserve your home and consider moving the entire structure to a location you like. You should trace the history of your home to see whether it has any ancient significance and if it is a heritage home to determine whether or not to move it.

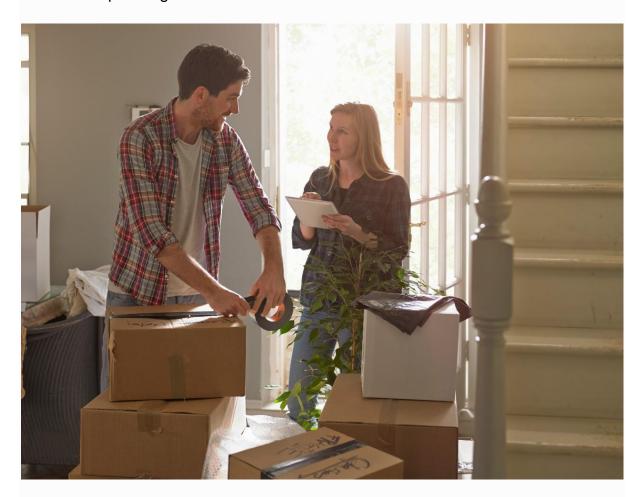
2. Costs Less Than Buying And Building A New Home

In some cases, you may be forced to relocate to a new place for a job or other reasons, but if your current home costs less than having to buy a home in Perth, you should move the structure completely. For instance, buying a 3-bedroom home in

Perth costs around \$1,005,000. So, if your current home is cheaper than this rate, it is better to move it entirely.

3. Fix Foundational And Structural Issues Of Your Home

If you have structural or foundation issues in your home, you can ask your professional removalists Perth to lift your home and fix the foundations instead of entirely shifting to a new home. This will also help you increase the value of your home when planning to relocate in Perth.



You might also want to move your home because your current location is too close to the shoreline or main road. If you live in the city and want to move to a suburb in Perth, you should try and move your whole home. Once you determine the reason for your move, you should look at the costs involved in the process of moving your home in Perth:

Costs Of Moving A Home In Perth The Length And Width Of Your Home Will Add To The Costs Generally, when moving your home, you will have to hire:

• An engineer who will draw up a plan for the move.

- A contractor will coordinate the whole move.
- Removalists Perth who will transport your home to a new location.
- A mason who will lay the foundation for your home.

Before the actual move, your general contractor, engineer, removalists Perth and your mason will look at the size and weight of your home and create a concrete plan for the move. The size of your home will be a big factor in your moving costs because if your home is small in length and width, it will cost you less than a home that is an 8,000 feet mansion. **Generally, moving a home in Perth costs around \$12 to \$16 per square foot**.

The Structure Will Determine The Difficulty Of The Move

If you have a single-storey home with lots of features like a patio, backyard, garden and verandahs, it will cost you more than a home that is a rectangular-shaped lot. This is because your professional removalists Perth will have to use more equipment than a simple jacking system and a dolly because of the added features, which will add to your costs.

Foundations Can Be Costly Depending On The Materials

If your home is built on a pier front near the water, moving will be more difficult than if your home is built on a concrete foundation slab. The amount of space between your foundation and the first floor, called the crawlspace, will also factor in your costs. This is because if there is more crawlspace, your removalists Perth will have to use more steel plates to lift your home, which will cost extra.

Obstacles And Road Permits Can Become Expensive

Even if you are moving down the road, your general contractor will have to consider several obstacles along the road, like the trees, the width of the roads and powerlines. In some cases, you may need special permission to use certain roads, and your general contractor will have to get all the necessary building permits for this. If there are many obstacles and road costs, your contractor will add this to your moving costs, and you could end up paying a fortune!

Cost Of Labour And Time Involved In The Move

Lastly, when you are moving your home, your removalists Perth will have to:

- First, use a jacking machine to drill holes in the foundation and lift your home.
- Then these experts will have to lift this onto a dolly, transfer it onto a special vehicle, and take it to your new home.

- Once they arrive at your new location, these professionals must use a ramp to lower the house onto your new plot and leave it on steel plates.
- Once the mason fills in the foundation, your movers will lower the house to fit the new foundation and remove all this equipment.

This entire process can add up to a lot as the general labour cost starts at around \$14 per square foot.

Total Cost Of Your House Move

Therefore your total cost to move your home in Perth can add up to anywhere between \$15,000 and 200,000 depending on the size, structure, obstacles, foundation and labour cost.



Moving your entire home can be expensive, so you must look at the factors above and see whether this move will suit your budget. If it costs less than buying a new home in Perth, you can start the process and lift and move your old home to a new location.

III. How to Organize Your Move Without Going Crazy

Everyone could probably use some moving tips, especially if you are packing up your whole life and headed for a new home. You are in good company among the millions of people who have moved their family. It can be a stressful time, but the process does not have to be frustrating. Here's how to get your life and possessions organized for a smooth and easy move.



Make a List

Write everything down; you will thank yourself later. Before you pack even one box, create a simple record-keeping system. Create a numbered list that specifically names the contents in each numbered box. You can designate a spiral-bound notebook for the job or generate the list on a computer. Make sure you put a number on *every* box you pack. When describing the box contents, be specific—"A-D files" is better than "files" and "tulip dishes" rather than "kitchen." Never put the list down unless it's in your "packing central" location. This is where you store your labels, marking pens, box tape, and other packing supplies. In the midst of activity, you will be able to find what you need.

Have Plenty of Supplies

You will need lots of boxes—probably more boxes than you think and having enough boxes will make your life easier. If you buy your boxes from a moving company, you can always return unused boxes for a refund. If you got them free from a grocery store, flatten and recycle the leftovers. Leave about 10 boxes set aside to use for last-minute items on moving day, such as bedding, clothing, and cleaning supplies.

You will need strong plastic packing tape to close up the boxes securely. Use unprinted newsprint paper (newspaper ink can stain some items), packing paper, or bubble wrap to wrap and cushion household goods. You will need a lot more

supplies than you think, so get extra. Return any unused supplies after the truck is packed.

Utilize Wardrobe Boxes

These tall boxes are perfect for bulky, lightweight items such as comforters, pillows, and blankets, as well as clothes that need to remain hanging. Call your mover to ask the width of the wardrobe boxes they'll be bringing. Then measure the clothes in your closets (including coat closets) to see how many extra wardrobe boxes you will need. You can also use them for closet storage boxes, shoe boxes, and other bulky items such as fabric bolts, large baskets, or gift wrap tubes.

Don't make the boxes too heavy to lift...like the couple who put a bowling ball in a wardrobe box. When the box was lifted off the truck, the bottom gave way, sending the bowling ball on a wild ride down the ramp, across the street to the gutter, and down a hill.



Strategize Wardrobe Box Use

Moving companies will be happy to deliver boxes ahead of your moving day. Or if you are doing the move yourself, get things organized as early as possible. A few days before your move, fill some sturdy handled shopping bags with bulky closet items such as shoes, sweaters, belts, and jeans.

On moving day, fill the bottom of the wardrobe boxes with some of the shopping bags, then add your hanging clothing. Pack hanging items tightly so things won't move around and fall off of hangers.

Finally, cover the shoulders of your clothes (a dry cleaning bag works well), then add a few purses or sweaters on top. You'll have fewer boxes, and closet items remain together. Also, the shopping bags will make it easier to retrieve your belongings from the bottoms of a tall wardrobe box.

Color Coordinate

Designate a color for each room in the new home, such as yellow for the kitchen, orange for the dining room, and so on. Apply colored stickers on the box near the box number. In your new home, put a matching sticker on the door to each room. The movers will know where to put everything when they arrive at the destination. It's also helpful to post a big sign on the wall in the room where you want boxes stacked, such as "Boxes here please" to keep them out of furniture and traffic areas.

Keep Things Together

Insist on keeping things together when you or the movers are packing boxes. Keep bookends with books, light bulbs with lamps, and extension cords with appliances. Small, loose parts can be attached to the item they belong to with tape or placed in small envelopes. Keep picture hooks with pictures, shelf brackets with the bookcase, and a special wrench and bolts with the wall unit. Keep larger corresponding items (such as a cable TV cord) in resealable bags, and tape these to the underside or back of the item.



As a backup, have a "Parts Box" open on the kitchen counter and fill it with cables, cords, parts, pieces, brackets, or nails that are removed from any items of furniture.

Keep this box with you, or mark it well with a rainbow of colored stickers so it can be easily located on move-in day.

Pack Ahead and Use Your Containers

Anything you can pack ahead will save you time on moving day. If it's summer, get your winter clothes out of the way. You do not need multiple TVs around your house for the last few days there. Box up your shampoo and extra toothpaste and use items out of a travel cosmetic case for the last week or two. Pare down cooking utensils and food supplies to the bare essentials.

Wastebaskets can also be packed (put things in them) while you switch to using plastic grocery bags for trash collection.

Fill luggage and duffle bags with clothing, sheets, towels, and paper goods. Even for local moves, you'll be able to quickly spot your suitcase holding your favorite sweaters, whereas "Box No. 189" might remain elusive for days.

Consolidate Cleaning Supplies

If you must clean your old place after moving out, put together a kit of basic cleaning supplies and rags. Clean ahead of moving day, such as the inside of kitchen cupboards, the oven, windows. Leave the vacuuming for moving day—vacuum each room as the movers empty it.

Safeguard Valued Items

It's a good idea to keep valuable possessions, such as silverware, collections, or antiques, with you. If you have a long move and no room in your car, bury the items in an intentionally mislabeled box "Misc. kitchen pantry."

Check your homeowner's insurance to see how you are covered during the move, and if you need additional insurance from the mover. Also, find out what paperwork (receipts, appraisals, and photos) you might need to file a claim in case of loss.

Keep important papers with you: birth certificates, school records, mover estimates, new job contacts, utility company numbers, recent bank records, current bills, phone lists, closing papers, realtor info, maps, and more. Don't leave these with the mover. Keep them with you.

Personal Boxes

Use brightly colored storage tote boxes—one for each person. Let each family member fill theirs with items that they want right away in the new home—a set of

sheets, a towel, a couple of extension cords, a phone, nightlights, pens and paper, keys, tissues, and travel cosmetic case, and so on.

Moving may not be fun, but planning ahead will go a long way toward making the process bearable.

IV. How much rent can I afford? Expert advice on budgeting your new pad

Okay — so you're probs reading this because you're searching for an apartment (here's an item checklist for when you've got one, BTW). I know that feeling of scrolling through sites, dreamily looking at homes that look straight out of *Selling Sunset*. But bestie, you've got to be realistic.



When looking for a new place, you need to think about your hard-earned dollar. Yes, having a gorgeous interior may be the dream, but there are ways to decorate your apartment without breaking the bank. So, you *can* stay within budget and live the good life.

I've spoken to experts to find out just how much rent you can afford, ways to budget to keep to this, and what happens if you can't afford your rent. This way, you can get your quarters in order, and move into the right apartment for you and your wallet.

Keep on scrolling for all the info you need to get started...

How much rent can i afford?

First of all, you need to consider your current income-to-expense ratio. "A good rule of thumb for renters is to set aside about 30% of your income for rent," says Ryan Barone, CEO of RentRedi. "That being said, you know your priorities and spending best — you may spend more or less than 30% based on your values." It is also worth checking your landlord and city's salary requirements for renters. "For example, in New York City, renters are required to make an annual salary equal to 40 times the monthly rent on the apartment they're applying for," he adds.

It's also worth noting that if you don't have any regular repayments, you may have a bit more to play with when you start booking in apartment tours. "Someone with no other debts such as car payments, student loans, etc may be able to afford a bit more," says Kendall Meade, certified financial planner at SoFi. "I recommend that you sit down and build out your budget to see what would fit comfortably, while still allowing room for savings." The key is in planning, people.

How to budget when renting

Okay, now you've figured out how much rent you can afford, it's time to put a budget plan in place. Meade says that a great first step for this could be the 50/30/20 budget. "This is a system where you divide up your monthly income into three categories, based on percentage. 50% towards needs, 30% towards 'wants' and arguably the most important, 20% designated for 'savings' and other money goals like paying down debt."



She says that it's worth keeping in mind that if you are in a very high cost-of-living area, your costs may not fall within this range. Therefore, it is majorly important to adjust your wants category to offset an increase in needs, while maintaining your savings whenever possible.

If you plan out your budget and you are ever spending more than you are bringing in or don't have any room for savings, Meade explains that you may need to make some big changes. "This could include moving to a lower cost option, getting a roommate, or trading in your car for a more affordable option."

Only a li'l bit off having enough? Meade suggests removing your card from shopping and takeout sites to stop impulse purchases, doing an audit of your subscriptions (do you need to pay for your ex's Netflix? No!), and waiting 24 hours before making any non-essential purchases.

FYI: I personally find it helpful to carry a smaller wallet, like this cute FurArt one that's Amazon's Choice, rather than one that has space for cash. This is because I always seem to spend more when I have cash on hand.

What happens if i can't afford my rent?

Worried about having a change of circumstance that could leave you struggling? Thinking about what happens if your landlord ups the rent? There are lots of reasons

why you could end up in this sitch. If you do, you def need to own up to the problem, in order to make it easier to solve. "Depending on where you live, a number of things can happen if you break your lease," explains Barone. "Paying one or two months of rent is a common penalty for breaking a lease, but this can range depending on your landlord and/or the lease terms you have agreed to."

To start with, Barone suggests reading your lease agreement carefully to see what your landlord's terms were when you signed. This will give you a good idea of what to expect if you need to get out of your lease earlier than planned. From there, communicate closely with your landlord and see how you can both mutually help find a solution. "Some landlords might be okay with an early move-out and the more notice you can give, the better. It's always best to talk with them and see to see what is possible to accommodate."

Barone also adds that depending on your landlord's circumstances, some may be able to accommodate a unique arrangement for you. This setup could mean discounted rent in exchange for maintenance duties. "You really won't know until you ask, so strike a positive relationship with your landlord to see what's possible," he adds.



If you do work out a special arrangement with your landlord, make sure everything is laid out in your lease or a lease addendum. This way, everything is clearly documented. I recommend printing your contract and putting it somewhere safe and accessible, such as in a file organizer like this Amazon Basics one, which has over

44,000 five-star reviews.

Now you have all the deets for getting your apartment finances in order — yay to being an adult! I hope you find a place that you love, and that your move goes well. You've got this.

V. How to Save Money When Moving House



Rent and bills are already expensive enough, but moving house brings a whole new list of expenses (some that you've probably never considered!). That being said, there are still several different tricks you can use to save money when moving, here are our top tips for saving money when you're moving house in Australia.

Spring clean

It goes without saying that the ease and cost of your removal will depend upon the number of possessions you plan on taking to your new home, so cutting down on unnecessary possessions will save time, effort, and money during your move. You should use the move as an opportunity to donate anything you no longer need, use, or love. Not only will this make the logistics of moving easier and save you money in the process, but it'll also give you a fresh, clutter-free start in your new home!

Get creative with packaging

Rather than buying packing materials, consider:

 Using scarfs, blankets, or soft clothes instead of bubble wrap to secure breakables.

- Visiting supermarkets and electronic stores to collect packing boxes rather than buying them new.
- Using your furniture to your advantage by keeping your clothes in the drawers or on their hangers, storing books and other personal items in suitcases, and using backpacks and bags to move smaller items.
- Transporting your clothes and shoes in eco-friendly garbage bags, then reusing the bags for rubbish once you're all moved in!

Clean the old place yourself

You need to give your old place a very thorough clean before handing the keys over. We know it's tempting, but don't book a cleaning service! With fees starting from around \$250 they're certainly not cheap, and in some circumstances, the company may need to return to do a second clean.

Save yourself the time, money, and stress by cleaning your old home yourself! It may sound like a challenging task, but employing the help of your friends (or an Airtasker if you can't convince anyone to help you for free) and doing the work yourself can be very rewarding!

Rent your own moving van

If you or a friend are licensed to drive in Australia, you can complete the move yourself! Many truck and trailer rental companies use nearby petrol stations as their drop-off and pick-up points, so you can book whatever sized vehicle you need to complete the move. You can usually pick the vehicle up near your old house and drop it off near your new address once you've finished the move. Find your local vehicle hire here.

Reduce your removalist costs

If renting your own van isn't possible, there are several other ways to reduce the cost of your move:

- Airtaskerallows people to offer helpful services such as helping you pack, moving your possessions, constructing furniture, and cleaning up at your new home; all for a fraction of the cost of professional movers. They also accept Afterpay so you can split the payment over a few weeks, rather than pay the amount in one instalment, freeing up your cash flow for other moving expenses.
- Use one of the many local, state, and nation-wide websites to compare removalist companies.
- Move mid-week. Since most people are studying or working, weekday removalist bookings tend to be cheaper than weekends.

Source second-hand

As an international student, you may want to avoid spending too much on furniture and decorations that you'll eventually need to leave behind, but you should still make your house feel like a home. This makes second-hand items perfect! Websites such as Gumtree and Facebook Marketplace tend to have very cheap (sometimes free!) homewares, from whitegoods (fridges, washing machines), lounges, and mattresses, to televisions and coffee machines.

Additionally, charity shops are perfect for finding high-quality and unique plates, bowls, wine glasses, and other home furnishings to make your home feel a little more personal.

Make dinner on the first night

A little time and effort spent locating your local grocery store and cooking yourself dinner is a great idea. You'll acquaint yourself with your new neighbourhood, pick up necessary items (toilet paper, cleaning products, breakfast, or a bottle of wine to toast your new place), save money by not ordering a takeaway (especially if you're feeding the friends that helped you move), and settle into your new home faster through the simple act of cooking.

Keen to save even more money when you move to your new home? Fast Connect is a free, easy to use service, and the fastest way to get your accounts set up; you can connect your electricity, gas, internet and Pay-TV with just one form. Plus, Fast Connect can even organise an Australian SIM card to be delivered to your new address when you move in! Click here to find out how you can get \$50 off your first energy bill.

CONCLUSION

Moving doesn't need to be a stressful experience; however, it takes planning and organization to ensure a smooth transition. With the right tools, budgeting, research, and packing lists, you can move easily. Careful preparation will save you time and money along the way. By following these steps, you can stay organized and ensure everything runs smoothly on move-in day.

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