

Renter-Specific Moving Checklist

A practical timeline for moving out of a rental



6-8 weeks before moving

- ☐ Give proper written notice
- ☐ Check your tenancy agreement's notice period
- ☐ Start to declutter



4 weeks before

- ☐ Book a moving van or removal company
- ☐ Start to use up food and frozen goods
- ☐ Notify your bank and other services of your address change



2 weeks before

- ☐ Confirm your deposit protection scheme details
- ☐ Arrange a check-out inspection date with your landlord or agent
- ☐ Start to pack non-essentials



Moving week

- ☐ Take meter readings (gas, electric, water)
- ☐ Take dated photos of the property's condition
- ☐ Confirm final cleaning arrangements



Moving day

- ☐ Return keys
- ☐ Get written confirmation of the check-out inspection
- ☐ Forward your post

RENT & REFINE



How to use it

Print out and tick items off as you go, or keep it on your phone and check items off digitally — whatever keeps you actually looking at it. I'd suggest starting from the '6-8 weeks before' section even if your move is happening faster than that; you can simply compress the timeline rather than skip steps.



A note on deposit protection

If you're in England or Wales, your landlord is legally required to protect your deposit in a government-approved scheme within 30 days of receiving it. Checking this was actually done (and getting your protection certificate) is one of the most commonly missed steps on this whole list, and it's one of the most important for actually getting your money back at the end of your tenancy.

Free Printable Decluttering Checklist for Small Spaces



Decluttering a small space is a different challenge to decluttering a big house – there’s less room for things to hide, but also less room to spread everything out and sort through it properly. This checklist makes it manageable room by room, rather than one overwhelming task.

Entryway

- | | |
|--|--------|
| ☐ Shoes | Notes: |
| ☐ Coats | _____ |
| ☐ Bags | _____ |
| ☐ Keys | _____ |
| ☐ Post pile-ups | _____ |

Living room

- | | |
|---|--------|
| ☐ Surfaces | Notes: |
| ☐ Media/cables | _____ |
| ☐ Throw blankets | _____ |
| ☐ Magazines | _____ |
| ☐ Papers | _____ |

Kitchen

- | | |
|--|--------|
| ☐ Cupboards | Notes: |
| ☐ Drawers | _____ |
| ☐ Fridge | _____ |
| ☐ Counter clutter | _____ |
| ☐ Expired food | _____ |

Bedroom

- | | |
|--|--------|
| ☐ Wardrobe | Notes: |
| ☐ Under-bed storage | _____ |
| ☐ Bedside table | _____ |
| ☐ Dresser drawers | _____ |

Bathroom

- | | |
|---|--------|
| ☐ Cabinet | Notes: |
| ☐ Expired products | _____ |
| ☐ Towels | _____ |
| ☐ Under-sink storage | _____ |

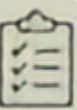
Miscellaneous

- | | |
|--|--------|
| ☐ Digital clutter | Notes: |
| ☐ Subscriptions | _____ |
| ☐ Paperwork | _____ |



Why a room-by-room approach works better

Trying to declutter an entire small flat in one go is one of the fastest ways to burn out halfway through, surrounded by piles with nowhere to put anything. Breaking it down by room – and even by smaller zones within each room – makes the whole process feel achievable in short sessions, rather than requiring an entire free weekend you may not actually have.



How to use it

Work through one section at a time rather than trying to do the whole list in one sitting – even fifteen minutes on a single drawer counts as real progress. Tick off each area as you go, and don’t worry about doing them in order, starting wherever feels most overwhelming, since clearing that one area first creates momentum for the rest.

A simple rule that helps you go

For anything you’re unsure about keeping, ask whether you’ve used it in the last year, and whether you’d buy it again if you didn’t already own it. If the answer to both is no, it’s usually safe to let it go – this one question cuts through a lot of decision fatigue when you’re staring at a drawer full of ‘maybe’ items.