

PLAN IT. PACK IT. MOVE WITH LESS STRESS.

Treasure Valley Moving Guide

An 8-week countdown, packing playbook, mover checklist, local utility contacts, and first-week setup guide for a smoother move.

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START EARLY, FINISH CALMER

Eight to six weeks out: make the decisions that drive everything else

The early phase is for scope, records, and comparison. Every box you avoid and every detail you confirm now makes moving week easier.

8 WEEKS OUT

Set the move framework

- Confirm the target move date and access windows.
- Create a move folder for estimates, receipts, inventories, and contacts.
- Choose: professional movers, container, rental truck, or a hybrid.
- Walk every room and mark keep, donate, sell, recycle, or discard.

7 WEEKS OUT

Compare before you commit

- Request at least three written in-home or video estimates.
- Ask what is included, excluded, subcontracted, or charged separately.
- Check mover credentials, insurance, address, and complaint history.
- Photograph high-value items and note current condition.

6 WEEKS OUT

Reduce the load

- Finish the first declutter pass, including garage and storage.
- Measure large furniture and new-home doorways.
- Gather boxes, labels, tape, paper, and specialty protection.
- Plan child, pet, elevator, parking, and gate arrangements.

One move command center

Keep a paper folder plus one shared digital note. Include the mover, utilities, school, closing or lease information, medical contacts, and a photo inventory. Do not pack it.

Treasure Valley timing: Start utility and internet transfer requests at least two weeks before moving. Installation and service territory can vary by the exact address.

01

Know the volume

Declutter before final estimates so quotes reflect what is actually moving.

02

Know the access

Tell movers about stairs, long carries, gates, elevators, and parking.

03

Know the terms

Read the estimate and valuation coverage before paying or signing.

FROM PLANNING TO KEYS

Five weeks through the first week: move in controlled handoffs

5 WEEKS OUT

Pack low-use spaces

- Seasonal clothing, decor, books, guest rooms, and hobby items.
- Use a room-color label plus box number and priority.
- List important box contents in your move note.

4 WEEKS OUT

Make the address plan

- Schedule USPS forwarding for the move.
- Update employers, banks, insurers, subscriptions, and key accounts.
- Request school and medical records as needed.

3 WEEKS OUT

Confirm services

- Schedule electric, gas, water, sewer, trash, and internet.
- Confirm mover arrival, crew, truck, contact, and payment method.
- Use frozen and pantry food; plan simple moving-week meals.

2 WEEKS OUT

Protect the final details

- Refill prescriptions and prepare a secure valuables bag.
- Arrange pets, children, parking, elevator, and keys.
- Back up computers; photograph electronics before disconnecting.

1 WEEK OUT

Pack for arrival

- Pack most rooms; leave daily-use items and essentials.
- Confirm service start dates and new-home access.
- Clean, defrost if required, and prepare appliances.

MOVING DAY

Supervise the handoff

- Keep documents, medicine, chargers, and valuables with you.
- Record meter readings and home condition; do a final walk-through.
- Check inventory before signing delivery paperwork.

First night: Open the essentials boxes first, make beds, set up one bathroom, verify locks and smoke/carbon monoxide alarms, and save the decorative unpacking for later.

First week in the new home

- [ ] Confirm mail forwarding and deliveries.
- [ ] Update driver's license and vehicle records.
- [ ] Register to vote if eligible.
- [ ] Finish school and medical transitions.
- [ ] Learn trash days and utility shutoffs.
- [ ] Break down boxes room by room.

PACK FOR THE UNPACK

Pack by use, room, and unpacking priority



Photo: ADSI, “Room-by-Room Packing Guide,” adsiunited.com

Pack first

Seasonal items, decor, books, collectibles, formal serving pieces, guest-room items, extra linens, and rarely used tools.

Pack last

Daily clothing, toiletries, medicine, chargers, work gear, pet supplies, basic cookware, cleaning tools, documents, and keys.

A room-by-room rhythm

- [ ] **Start with storage.** Attic, garage, shed, closets, and spare rooms reveal the real volume.
- [ ] **Finish one zone.** Sort, pack, label, and stage before opening another room.
- [ ] **Use small boxes for weight.** Books, pantry cans, tools, and dense objects.
- [ ] **Use large boxes for bulk.** Bedding, lampshades, pillows, and light items.
- [ ] **Keep parts together.** Put hardware in a labeled bag and attach it to the item.

A label that answers four questions

ROOM | BOX 12 | OPEN FIRST | FRAGILE

Write the destination room, box number, a short contents line, and unpacking priority on the top and two sides. Use the same room name at the new home.

Simple priority code

A = first 24 hours **B** = first week **C** = later. Add “HEAVY” and “THIS SIDE UP” where needed.

Your first-night essentials

- Toiletries, toilet paper, towels, medicine
- One change of clothes and sleepwear per person
- Chargers, power strip, flashlight, basic tools
- Sheets, pillows, shower curtain if needed
- Pet food, bowls, leash, litter, comfort items
- Snacks, water, coffee setup, paper goods

Fragile and valuable items

- Wrap pieces separately; fill empty box space.
- Use dish packs or divided cells for glassware.
- Pack plates vertically; do not lay them flat.
- Photograph condition and serial numbers.
- Carry jewelry, documents, medication, and irreplaceable items yourself.

ESTIMATE, THEN ADJUST

Box counts are a starting point, not a promise

These generic ranges help with planning. Actual needs vary widely with belongings, storage areas, family size, decluttering, box dimensions, and packing style.

HOME SIZE	APPROX. TOTAL BOXES	PLANNING MIX
Studio / 1 bedroom	**20–35**	More small and medium; a few large and wardrobe boxes
2 bedrooms	**35–55**	Balanced small/medium mix; add dish and wardrobe boxes as needed
3 bedrooms	**55–80**	More medium boxes; extra small boxes for books, pantry, and garage
4+ bedrooms	**80–120+**	Inventory each room; storage and garage contents can raise the total sharply

Better than guessing: Pack one representative room, count what it used, then adjust the total. Keep roughly 10% extra small and medium boxes for the final days.

Moving necessities checklist

1. **Boxes**
   Small, medium, large, dish, and wardrobe
2. **Seal & label**
   Packing tape, dispenser, markers, labels
3. **Cushion**
   Packing paper, bubble wrap, dividers
4. **Protect**
   Mattress covers, furniture pads, corner guards
5. **Contain**
   Stretch wrap, zip bags, trash bags, bins
6. **Move**
   Dolly/hand truck, straps, gloves
7. **Open**
   Box cutter, scissors, basic tool kit
8. **Clean**
   Cleaner, cloths, broom, vacuum, paper towels
9. **Document**
   Inventory, folder, phone camera, pen

Do not create a box nobody can lift

Use small boxes for dense items and fill large boxes with lightweight goods. Keep the center of gravity low, tape the bottom seam securely, and test the lift before sealing.

COMPARE THE WHOLE OFFER

A written estimate is the center of a safe mover search

A low headline number is not enough. The better comparison is credentials, scope, estimate type, coverage, payment terms, and what happens if conditions change.

1

Verify the business

Confirm legal name, physical address, active authority where required, insurance, and whether another carrier will handle any part of the move.

2

Request a visual estimate

Ask for an in-home or live video survey and a written inventory. Disclose stairs, elevators, long carries, bulky items, and access limits.

3

Compare the same scope

Check labor, travel, fuel, packing, materials, valuation coverage, storage, shuttle, cancellation, and rescheduling terms.

4

Read before signing

Keep the estimate, bill of lading or service agreement, inventory, coverage selection, and payment receipt.

Binding vs. non-binding

Binding estimate: generally sets the price for the listed services and inventory, subject to permitted changes or added services.

Non-binding estimate: is an estimate rather than a guaranteed final amount; actual charges can depend on the completed move and applicable rules.

Ask: “What specific change could increase this total, and how will I approve it in writing?”

Red flags

- Large upfront deposit or pressure to pay in cash
- No physical address or inconsistent business name
- No written estimate, inventory, or service terms
- Blank documents or pressure to sign before review
- Refusal to explain coverage, claims, or subcontracting
- A quote far below comparable estimates without a clear reason

Interstate move? Ask for the company’s U.S. Department of Transportation information and review federal consumer-protection materials. Local and intrastate requirements differ, so verify what applies to your move.

FIVE CALLS TO BEGIN THE COMPARISON

Use this Boise-area list as a starting point—not an endorsement

Contact details were checked before publication. Services, ownership, credentials, insurance, availability, and terms can change. Verify everything directly before you hire.

All In One Moving LLC

(208) 999-8036

2807 S Cole Rd, Boise, ID 83709
allinonemovingllc.com

Bluebird Moving

(208) 600-1953

5325 W Kendall St, Boise, ID 83706
bluebirdmoving.com

Air Van Moving

(208) 345-3030

3340 S Denver Way, Boise, ID 83705
airvanmoving.com

BustNMoves

(208) 904-0766

820 S Latah St, Suite 105, Boise, ID 83706
bustnmoves.com

Gem State Moving

(208) 381-0665

4790 W Clinton St, Boise, ID 83706
gemstatemoving.com

Ask every company the same six questions

1. Who will perform the move?
2. What is excluded from the quote?
3. Is the estimate binding or non-binding?
4. What coverage options apply?
5. What deposit and payment are required?
6. How are claims handled?

Quote comparison notes

COMPANY	ESTIMATE TYPE	INCLUDED / EXCLUDED	COVERAGE	DECISION NOTES

SCHEDULE 2+ WEEKS AHEAD

Start with electric and gas, then confirm city service by address

Electric — Idaho Power

Treasure Valley: **208-388-2323**
Toll-free: **1-800-488-6151**
idahopower.com

Natural gas — Intermountain Gas

Treasure Valley: **208-377-6840**
Other areas / emergencies: **800-548-3679**
intgas.com

Before you call: Have the service address, move-in date, identification, contact details, and any lease or closing information the provider requests. Never assume the mailing city identifies the utility district.

CITY	WATER / SEWER	TRASH / CITY CONTACT
Boise	Utility Billing **(208) 608-7460** utilities@cityofboise.org	Republic Services **(208) 345-1266** General trash questions **(208) 608-7136**
Meridian	Public Works **(208) 898-5500** Water emergency **(208) 888-5242** Wastewater **(208) 888-2191**	City **(208) 888-4433** Utility payments **1-833-692-4414**
Nampa	Utility Billing **(208) 468-5711** Water & Irrigation **(208) 468-5860**	City Hall **(208) 468-4413** 411 3rd St S, Nampa, ID 83651
Caldwell	Utility Billing **(208) 455-3000** Sewer plant **(208) 455-3041**	Garbage service is through Republic Services and billed by the city; confirm setup with Utility Billing.
Kuna	City utility payments **(208) 922-5546**	City Hall, 751 W 4th St, Kuna Confirm water, sewer, and trash setup for the address.

Transfer, do not just cancel

Coordinate the old-home stop date with the new-home start date. Keep confirmation numbers and ask whether meters, deposits, containers, or account ownership require an extra step.

DISTRICTS CAN CROSS CITY LINES

Confirm the actual provider serving the property

Eagle, Star, Middleton, and Garden City may involve city departments, special districts, or contracted haulers. The address—not the city name alone—decides the right call.

CITY	WATER / SEWER	TRASH / CITY CONTACT
Eagle	Eagle Sewer District **(208) 939-0132** Water provider varies by property; confirm with the City of Eagle.	City of Eagle **(208) 939-6813** Trash is under a city contract with Republic Services; ask the city to confirm setup.
Star	Star Sewer & Water District **(208) 286-7388** 10831 W State St, Star, ID 83669	City of Star **(208) 286-7247** info@staridaho.org Ask the city to confirm the current trash hauler.
Middleton	City utilities **(208) 585-3133**	Republic Services **(208) 466-3302** Confirm service and container delivery.
Garden City	Utility Billing **(208) 472-2930** ubilling@gardencityidaho.org 6015 Glenwood St, Garden City, ID 83714	Ask Utility Billing which services are included and how refuse is established at the address.

Questions for utility billing

- [ ] Which services does this account include?
- [ ] Owner or tenant responsibility?
- [ ] What start date and meter read apply?
- [ ] Is irrigation separate?
- [ ] Which trash day and cart size?
- [ ] Any forms or identification required?

New construction or fringe address?

Ask the builder, title team, landlord, or property manager for the exact water, sewer, irrigation, trash, electric, gas, and internet providers. New subdivisions can sit near a city while being served by another entity.



Photo: UFP-Edge, “Boise Modern Mountain,” ufpedge.com

CHECK THE EXACT ADDRESS FIRST

Internet availability is address-specific

Sparklight
Customer service: **877-692-2253**
New service / transfer: **877-687-1332**

CenturyLink
Account and technical support: **1-800-244-1111**

Quantum Fiber
Current customer service / moves: **1-833-250-6306**

TDS Fiber
Sales & account questions: **1-855-220-2592**
Check service availability for the new address.

Fixed wireless
Check address eligibility with **T-Mobile Home Internet** and **Verizon 5G/LTE Home Internet**.

Installation checklist
Confirm speed at the address, equipment, installation window, adult-presence requirement, transfer/return steps, and the power-on date.

Do not cancel the old connection too early. If work, school, security, or medical devices rely on internet, build in overlap or a hotspot backup.

Then move your records and routines

1. **USPS:** Submit a change of address through the official Postal Service channel and separately update critical senders.
2. **Idaho driving records:** New residents should review current Idaho Transportation Department requirements for a driver's license, title, and registration. Bring the required identity, residency, ownership, and insurance documents.
3. **Voter registration:** Register or update the residence through the official Idaho election system or county election office.
4. **School:** Contact the district serving the new address; gather identity, residency, immunization, and prior-school records as requested.
5. **Care:** Transfer prescriptions and medical, dental, veterinary, therapy, and specialist records before supplies run low.
6. **Home:** Locate shutoffs, test alarms, change access codes, review emergency contacts, and learn local collection days.

KEEP THIS PAGE OUT OF THE TRUCK

Your final 24-hour checklist

With you

- [ ] Identification, keys, contracts, and move folder
- [ ] Medication, valuables, and irreplaceable items
- [ ] Phones, chargers, power bank, and contact list
- [ ] Water, snacks, pet and child necessities
- [ ] Payment method and tip, if planned

At the old home

- [ ] Photograph condition and meter readings
- [ ] Check cabinets, attic, garage, shed, and appliances
- [ ] Set aside remotes, codes, manuals, and keys
- [ ] Confirm windows, doors, water, heat, and lights
- [ ] Complete the final walk-through

At the new home

- [ ] Direct boxes to labeled rooms
- [ ] Check inventory and visible damage
- [ ] Place beds and large furniture first
- [ ] Open essentials; set up one bathroom
- [ ] Keep exits, stairs, and walkways clear

Before the crew leaves

- [ ] Inspect the truck and delivery inventory
- [ ] Note concerns on paperwork before signing
- [ ] Keep copies of signed documents
- [ ] Confirm claims procedures and deadlines
- [ ] Do not discard damaged items or packaging yet

Moving into—or across—the Treasure Valley?

Team Owens Realty can help you plan the real-estate side of the move and connect the handoffs from keys to neighborhood.

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General-information disclaimer: This guide is educational and is not legal, tax, financial, insurance, safety, or moving-contract advice. Provider details, service areas, requirements, and phone routing can change. Confirm all information directly with the mover, city, district, utility, internet provider, school, and government agency before acting.

Photo credits: Cover — Invitation Homes search page / iStock image, invitationhomes.com. Packing — ADSI, “Room-by-Room Packing Guide,” adsiunited.com. Home — UFP-Edge, “Boise Modern Mountain,” ufpedge.com. **Contact grounding:** official city, district, utility, and provider pages, plus mover business websites, reviewed before publication. Companies listed are starting points only.