

First Apartment Moving Checklist 2026



Stay ahead of your move — one step at a time

How to use: Work through each section in order. Tick off tasks as you go and use the Notes / Date column to record confirmations, booking numbers, and deadlines.

6 Weeks Out — Sort the Big Stuff First

✓	Task	Notes / Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	Book your removalist — get 3+ quotes and confirm in writing	<i>Booking confirmed:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Read your lease in full — note rules on nails, repairs, bond conditions	<i>Lease signed:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Set your moving budget (removalist, packing, utilities, extras)	<i>Budget total: \$</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Start collecting free boxes (supermarket, bottle shop, bookstore)	<i>Boxes sourced:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Research your new suburb — transport, shops, parking	

Good removalists fill up fast, especially on weekends and end-of-month. Book early and get everything confirmed in writing including insurance cover and final pricing.

4 Weeks Out — Start Packing What You Don't Use

✓	Task	Notes / Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pack seasonal items first (off-season clothes, read books, spare linen)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Label every box clearly on the top and the side	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Photograph the back of all electronics before unplugging cables	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Measure furniture against new apartment doorways and room sizes	<i>Done:</i>

<input type="checkbox"/>	Notify bank, employer, Medicare, AEC and subscriptions of new address	<i>Date notified:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contact building manager about move-in rules, lifts, loading zones	<i>Contact name:</i>

Measure the new apartment before moving day — not during it. A couch that won't fit through the front door is a problem you don't want to discover on the day.

2 Weeks Out — The Details That Get Forgotten

✓	Task	Notes / Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	Connect electricity and gas — can take several days to activate	<i>Provider & ref no:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Book NBN / internet connection — technician visit may be needed	<i>Provider & date:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Organise truck parking and loading zone access on moving day	<i>Confirmed with:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Book service lift if required by your apartment building	<i>Time slot:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pack your first-night bag (clothes, charger, towel, TP, sheets, toothbrush)	<i>Packed: <input type="checkbox"/></i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Set up contents insurance before moving day	<i>Policy number:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Confirm removalist time, address and access details	<i>Confirmed:</i>

Pack a dedicated first-night bag. When you're exhausted at 9 pm surrounded by 40 boxes, you won't have to open a single one of them.

Moving Day — Keep It Calm and Organised

✓	Task	Notes / Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	Start early — aim for a morning start to beat the afternoon heat	<i>Start time:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Load furniture before boxes; mark fragile items clearly	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Keep a numbered box list so you can find things without unpacking all	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Final walkthrough of old place — every cupboard, shelf, and under beds	<i>Done: <input type="checkbox"/></i>

<input type="checkbox"/>	Return old keys and get written confirmation from property manager	<i>Receipt obtained:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Walk new apartment with entry condition report in hand	<i>Report signed:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Photograph all pre-existing damage in new apartment	<i>Photos taken:</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Email condition report and photos to property manager same day	<i>Sent at:</i>

Do the entry condition report walkthrough on day one and send your photos to the property manager immediately. A written record protects your bond when you eventually leave.

First Week — Settle In Properly

✓	Task	Notes / Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	Set up your bedroom first — good sleep matters most in week one	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stock kitchen basics, cleaning products and bathroom supplies	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Test every tap, light switch, powerpoint, oven, shower and door lock	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Report any faults to property manager in writing within 7 days	<i>Issues logged:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check smoke alarms are working	<i>Checked:</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check all window locks are secure	<i>Checked:</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Confirm internet and NBN connection is live	<i>Active:</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Introduce yourself to neighbours	

Always report faults in writing — not by phone. A written record protects you throughout the tenancy and at bond time.

Important Contacts

Contact / Service	Name / Company	Phone / Email / Reference
Removalist		
Property Manager		
Electricity Provider		

Gas Provider		
Internet Provider		
Building Manager		
Insurance Provider		
Emergency Contact		

First Apartment Moving Checklist 2026 • Print, tick, and enjoy your new home.