

Weekly checklist

30
days
to 'M-Day'

- Haven't had that yard sale yet? Now is the time.
- Get a change-of-address kit and begin filling out notifications. You can go to your local post office or do it online at www.usps.com. If you don't have a new address by now, get a post office box.
- Arrange for interim housing, if needed.

- Find out how to get a new driver's license and license plates at your new duty station.
- Arrange for auto and renters or homeowners insurance at your new location.
- Contact utility companies for information about deposits and how much advance notice is required for utility service start dates.

- Get appraisals for high-value items you plan to ship. Put these documents with the important papers you carry with you. Record serial numbers of TVs, other electronic equipment. Keep them separately. Packers should also record these numbers on their inventory sheets.
- Confirm your moving dates with your movers. Talk to the company about pre- and post-move servicing of washers, dryers, refrigerators, grandfather clocks, satellite dishes, large-screen and plasma TVs, and fitness gear.
- If you plan to hire someone to clean your home after you move out, make the arrangements. Make sure they know the cleaning standards required by the military housing office if you're in government housing.

- Make travel plans.
- Consider setting up a Web-based e-mail account, through hotmail.com or yahoo.com, for example. This lets you check e-mail on the road, and when you get to your new location.
- If moving overseas, set aside the items you will have shipped separately as unaccompanied or express baggage. This includes temporary living items such as dishes, linens and extra clothes.

- Start sending out change-of-address cards or e-mails. Update magazine subscriptions.