

Six Month Downsizing Plan

Six Months Out

- ☐ Walk through your whole house noting items that you know you don't need and can easily give up.
- ☐ List the rooms/areas in your current home that you don't plan to have in your new space.
- ☐ Make a first pass at your clothing and shoes, eliminating anything you haven't worn in 2 years.
- ☐ Assess your collections, prized possessions, and memorabilia. Determine how much space you want to dedicate to them in your new home.
- ☐ Identify items of value; consult with a collectibles advisor, auction house, or estate liquidator.
- ☐ Designate items to give to friends and family members. Set a plan for removing anything you are storing for other people.
- ☐ Gather important documents and store them safely. Shred/Recycle as much paper as possible.
- ☐ Stop subscriptions; purge magazines, reduce book collections to what will go with you.
- ☐ Eliminate outdated media for content that is now available electronically.
- ☐ Set photos aside for digitizing or sorting at a later date.

4 Months Out

- ☐ Start sorting through small storage spaces: closets, bathrooms, bedside tables and junk drawers.
 - ☐ Collect all cleaning products in one place; try to use them up without buying more.
 - ☐ Go back through your off-season clothing and remove items not worn in the last season.
 - ☐ Cull hobby supplies; identify and remove abandoned projects and materials.
 - ☐ Pare down holiday decorations to what you will use in your next space.
- ☐ Hire an experienced Realtor® who understands the downsizing process.
 - ☐ Determine repairs and/or upgrades that will be necessary to sell the property.
 - ☐ Work with your Realtor® to get estimates from reputable downsizing professionals in your area.

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At the end of the third month, assess your progress on your decluttering efforts. If you are having trouble, consider hiring a professional organizer or move manager to pitch in.

Three Months Out

- ☐ Schedule the necessary repairs or upgrades to your property.
- ☐ Hire an experienced Move Manager to make a detailed plan for your move.
- ☐ Measure your furniture and create a floor plan for your next home.
- ☐ Complete sales or re-homing of valuable items not going with you.
- ☐ Address remaining items in the home including the attic, garage, basement, shed, etc. Schedule auction and junk removal for unneeded household items.
- ☐ Purge the pantry of outdated or unwanted food.
- ☐ Declutter your kitchen and reduce tools, appliances, cookware, and entertaining items.
- ☐ Go back through closets, office, hobby areas looking for things you won't need.

Two Months Out

- ☐ Select a trustworthy and dependable Mover; schedule your move.
- ☐ Complete any landscaping or delayed maintenance projects.
- ☐ Separate out your best clothing, keep only what fits and flatters.
- ☐ Go back through closets, office, hobby areas looking for things you won't need.
- ☐ Finish all donation drop offs or pickups.
- ☐ Complete estate sale or auction if necessary. Finish all donation drop offs or pickups.

One Month Out

- ☐ Revisit your list of repairs and upgrades; make the final list of projects still needing attention.
- ☐ Coordinate all schedules and tasks with your Move Manager.
- ☐ Continue to reduce the food in your kitchen, pantry and freezer.
- ☐ Prepare for the next steps: Selling Your Home or Packing and Moving.