

8 TO 12 WEEKS BEFORE YOUR MOVE

- Book your international removal company**
Choose a FIDI/FAIM accredited company. This is the international gold standard and means your mover is independently audited every year. AMC offers a free pre-move survey. Call 1800 668 348.
- Check passport validity**
Most countries require at least six months of validity beyond your arrival date. Check your whole family's passports now and renew any that are close to expiry.
- Research visa and work permit requirements**
Contact the embassy or consulate for your destination country. Processing times for some visa categories run to several months. Begin the application as early as possible.
- Contact the Department of Social Protection**
Notify the DSP if you receive any state benefit, Child Benefit, or carer's allowance. Benefits cannot be redirected or suspended without your notification.
- Notify your employer**
Confirm your final working date. Clarify whether you are resigning, going remote, or taking a career break before giving formal notice.
- Research customs rules at your destination**
Every country has restrictions on what can be imported in a personal shipment. Australia, New Zealand, and Canada are particularly strict. Check the official customs authority website before packing.
- Arrange pet export if applicable**
Most countries require microchipping, a valid rabies vaccination, a health certificate, and a TRACES export document from your vet. Allow several months for the full process.
- Get a written quotation**
Confirm all costs in writing: packing, shipping, transit insurance, and any destination port or customs charges. Get at least two quotes before committing.
- Plan your moving budget**
Factor in shipping, insurance, customs duties, storage if needed, and temporary accommodation if there is a gap between your departure date and access to your new home.
- Notify Revenue Ireland of your departure**
Log in to myAccount at revenue.ie and update your details. If you are leaving part-way through the tax year you may be entitled to a refund. A tax advisor can help.
- Research your Irish pension options**
Contact your occupational pension or PRSA provider about what happens on departure. For state pension queries, visit pensionsauthority.ie.
- Begin decluttering your home**
Sell, donate, or dispose of anything you will not ship or store. AMC offers short-term storage for items you are undecided about. Less volume means lower cost.
- Research schools, healthcare and accommodation**
Waiting lists for GP registration and school enrolment in many countries run to months. Join destination-specific expat groups on Facebook and IrishAbroad.ie early.

4 TO 6 WEEKS BEFORE YOUR MOVE

- Confirm your booking with AMC**
Lock in collection, packing, and shipping dates. Get a direct contact number for your AMC move coordinator for the weeks ahead.
- Create a full inventory of items being shipped**
List every item by category with an estimated replacement value. Required for customs clearance and for any insurance claim if items are damaged or lost.
- Notify your GP and dentist**
Request printed copies of your medical history, vaccination records, and current prescriptions. Some destination countries will not accept digital-only records from Irish providers.
- Notify your bank**
Confirm whether your account stays open, set up international transfers, and check which cards work abroad without transaction fees.
- Decide what to do with your car**
If shipping, get specialist quotes. If selling, allow time for a private sale. If leaving it, arrange off-road insurance and secure storage.
- Arrange international health insurance**
Public healthcare entitlements do not transfer when you leave Ireland. Get private international health cover in place before your departure date.
- Complete customs declaration documents**
Most countries require a detailed goods inventory for import clearance. AMC provides the relevant forms and guides you through what needs to be declared.
- Arrange transit insurance**
Your home contents policy does not cover international shipping. Arrange a dedicated marine transit policy covering the full replacement value of your shipment door to door.
- Set up An Post mail redirection**
Available for 6 or 12 months at anpost.com. Redirect to a family member's address so someone can review your post after you leave.
- Cancel Irish direct debits and subscriptions**
Go through bank statements and cancel streaming services, gym memberships, magazine subscriptions, and any Ireland-only digital services.
- Check international driving requirements**
An International Driving Permit is required alongside your Irish licence in Australia, Canada, the USA, Japan, and parts of the Middle East.
- Remove yourself from the electoral register**
Contact your local county council to be removed from the Irish register. Required when you are no longer ordinarily resident in Ireland.

2 TO 4 WEEKS BEFORE YOUR MOVE

- Confirm packing day with AMC**
Agree a start time and confirm which items AMC will pack. Flag fragile pieces, antiques, and high-value artwork so the crew brings the correct materials.
- Clean all outdoor and camping equipment**
Australia, New Zealand, and Canada have strict biosecurity controls. Remove all soil, seeds, and organic matter from boots, tents, and tools before packing. Contaminated items can be destroyed on arrival.
- Remove batteries from items being shipped**
Lithium-ion batteries in power tools, e-bikes, and cordless appliances cannot travel in a container due to fire risk rules. Remove them and carry as checked luggage.
- Gather and copy all important documents**
Collect originals and certified copies of passports, birth certs, marriage cert, PPS cards, qualifications, and insurance documents. Store digital copies in a secure cloud location.
- Arrange utility disconnections**
Contact ESB Networks, Gas Networks Ireland, Irish Water, and your broadband provider. Book disconnection for the day after collection. You will need power and water while the crew works.
- Arrange temporary accommodation if needed**
If there is a gap between vacating your home and your flight, book in advance. Short-term options in Dublin and Kildare can be limited at short notice.
- Check ISPM 15 certification for timber furniture**
Timber shipped to Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the USA must carry the ISPM 15 heat treatment stamp or it will be held at the destination port. AMC handles this certification for you.
- Drain fuel and oil from all power equipment**
Lawnmowers, chainsaws, generators, and pressure washers must be fully drained before loading. This is a safety requirement for all sea container shipments without exception.
- Empty, defrost and dry your fridge and freezer**
Complete at least 24 hours before collection and leave doors open. Residual moisture in a sealed appliance over a multi-week sea voyage causes mould damage not covered by transit insurance.
- Settle outstanding Irish bills**
Clear Local Property Tax, utility bills, credit card balances, hire purchase agreements, and any outstanding loans before you leave.
- Cancel bin collection and local deliveries**
Cancel refuse collection, meal kit subscriptions, newspaper delivery, and regular home deliveries. Most providers require at least one week's notice.
- Back up all computers and devices**
Back up to both a cloud service and a physical external hard drive before electronics are packed. Do not rely on a single backup for irreplaceable files.



INTERNATIONAL MOVING CHECKLIST

Your complete guide to moving from Ireland

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1 WEEK BEFORE YOUR MOVE

- Confirm collection details with AMC**
Confirm exact arrival time, parking arrangements, access codes, and any key handover details the crew will need.
- Arrange parking for the AMC vehicle**
A large removal vehicle needs clear access to your property. If on a restricted street, arrange a parking suspension with your local council at least five days in advance.
- Confirm flight and travel arrangements**
Review tickets, check baggage allowances, and confirm airport transfers and first-night accommodation are in order.
- Arrange childcare and pet care for moving day**
Children and pets should be away from the property on collection day. A crew working at pace through a full house is not a safe environment for either.
- Give AMC your destination contact details**
Provide a working phone number and destination address where you can be reached from the moment your shipment leaves Ireland.
- Label all self-packed boxes**
Write contents and destination room on every box in bold permanent marker. Attach fragile stickers to anything breakable. Avoid abbreviations only you will understand.
- Separate personal items from the shipment**
Anything you need during transit or in your first week must travel as luggage. This includes medication, phone chargers, and work equipment you cannot be without.
- Withdraw cash for travel**
Have enough local currency for your first few days. New local bank accounts and international transfers can take several days to activate.

1 TO 2 DAYS BEFORE YOUR MOVE

- Confirm fridge and freezer are defrosted and dry**
If not yet done, complete now and leave doors open overnight so both appliances are fully aired before the crew arrives.
- Charge all electronic devices**
Fully charge phones, laptops, tablets, and cameras. Access to power during transit or in your first hours at your destination is not guaranteed.
- Keep documents and valuables out of the shipment**
Passports, visa letters, travel insurance documents, jewellery, and cash must travel with you personally. These items cannot be adequately insured in a shipping container.
- Confirm the crew arrival time with AMC**
Call or message your AMC coordinator to confirm expected arrival. Be on site and ready when they arrive.
- Dismantle large furniture**
Beds, flat-pack wardrobes, and large shelving units should be broken down before the crew arrives. This saves time and reduces the risk of on-site damage.
- Prepare your personal travel bag**
One bag, not in the container: documents, medication, phone charger, change of clothes, and toiletries for your first 48 hours.
- Complete a full walkthrough of the property**
Walk every room, attic, garage, shed, and outdoor area. Open every press and check every shelf. Nothing left behind can be recovered once the container is sealed.

MOVE DAY

- Be on site when the crew arrives**
You must be present when AMC arrives. Do not leave until the foreman confirms collection is complete and the inventory has been checked.
- Take final meter readings**
Photograph electricity, gas, and water meters before loading begins. Send readings to your utility providers the same day.
- Final walkthrough once the vehicle is loaded**
Walk every room, cupboard, attic, garage, and outdoor space before the van departs. This is your last opportunity to retrieve anything.
- Confirm delivery details with AMC**
Confirm your destination address, estimated arrival date, and whether your goods are going to storage or direct delivery.
- Walkthrough with the AMC foreman before loading**
Walk every room together before loading begins. Confirm which items are going and which are staying. Ambiguity now causes problems at the other end.
- Stay contactable by phone all day**
Your solicitor, estate agent, and AMC coordinator may all need to reach you. Keep your phone charged and on at all times.
- Hand over your keys**
Co-ordinate with your estate agent or solicitor. Confirm in writing to whom the keys were handed and at what time.

AFTER YOUR MOVE

- Update your address with Revenue Ireland**
Log in to myAccount at revenue.ie. If you are now tax-resident abroad, notify Revenue of your change in residency status.
- Open a local bank account**
Most employers, landlords, and utilities require a local account. In Australia, Canada, and the USA you can often open one before you arrive.
- Check if Irish qualifications need recognition**
Nursing, teaching, engineering, and other regulated professions require formal recognition in most countries. Contact the relevant regulatory body before applying for work.
- Register with the Irish Embassy or Consulate**
Registering gives you access to consular services for passport loss, legal difficulties, or emergencies while living abroad.
- Register with a local GP**
In Australia and Canada, waiting lists for new patients run to weeks. Register as soon as you arrive rather than waiting until you need a doctor.
- Follow up with AMC on your shipment**
Confirm estimated arrival dates with your coordinator. If goods are going into destination storage, confirm access arrangements and ongoing charges.