



Settling In Smartly: What to Do After Move-In Day

Why This Matters:

Move-in day is usually a blur — boxes everywhere, people coming and going, too many keys in your hand and not enough time. Once the chaos dies down, take a few minutes to get your bearings. You'll save yourself a lot of future stress (and unnecessary walks with trash).

Step 1: Know Where Things Go (Boxes, Trash, Recycling)

- Figure out where to take broken-down boxes.
Many places have separate areas for:
 - Regular trash
 - Cardboard/boxes
 - Recycling
- Don't assume it all goes in the same bin — check for signage or ask someone who's already been through it.
- Some communities have designated days or overflow policies — knowing this early keeps you out of trouble.

 **Pro Tip:** Break down boxes as you unpack to keep your space clear and make trips more efficient.

Step 2: Get Your Mail & Packages Set Up

- Test your mailbox key right away — don't wait until your first important letter is stuck inside.
- Confirm how packages are handled here:
 - Are there lockers? (Check access codes or app)
 - Do they go to the office? (If so, what are pickup hours?)
 - Is it a free-for-all in the lobby? (Secure deliveries accordingly)

 **Pro Tip:** Sign up for USPS Informed Delivery or carrier notifications — helps track what's arriving and where to look for it.

Step 3: Get to Know the Office Staff (Yes, Really)

- Learn who works on-site, and when they're available
(Office hours, on-call maintenance schedules, contact info)
- Stop in and introduce yourself, or even just say hi in passing

This isn't just about being friendly — forming a positive connection with staff means:

- Requests are more likely to be remembered and prioritized
- You'll know who to go to when something actually goes wrong
- It humanizes the system — for you and them

 **Real Talk:** Many teams are short-staffed and managing multiple buildings. Being kind, respectful, and familiar goes a long way.

Quick Checklist for Smart Settling-In:

- ☐ Find out where to put boxes, trash, and recycling
- ☐ Test your mailbox key + learn the package system
- ☐ Locate and note office hours, staff names, and contact info
- ☐ Say a quick hello to someone in the office
- ☐ Track packages so nothing gets lost in the shuffle