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The Ultimate PCS Checklist

By Praxedes Cotrina

Your Military Real Estate Professional

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"You've served this country. I've walked that road — now I serve you in your search for home."

60-90 Days Before PCS Orders

- Review PCS Orders (dates, location, and entitlements)
- ☐ Schedule meeting with Transportation Office (TMO/JPPSO)
- Research new duty station (base housing, schools, commute)
- □ Notify chain of command of planned leave or transition timeline
- ☐ Book appointments for EFMP, if applicable
- ☐ Start sorting: Keep / Donate / Trash / Storage
- \square Contact Praxedes Cotrina for PCS housing strategy (buy/sell/rent options)

45–60 Days Before Move

- \square Schedule pre-move walkthrough with housing office (if in base housing)
- Request quotes for DITY or PPM if not using military movers
- \square Begin house-hunting or listing your current property
- \(\subseteq \text{Lock in a trusted real estate agent near the new base (Hi \(\black \))
- Gather important documents (orders, IDs, passports, shot records)
- \(\subseteq \text{Notify landlord if renting (check lease for penalties)} \)
- Schedule medical and dental checkups
- □ Register for school transfers and request transcripts

30 Days Out

- \square Schedule HHG (household goods) pickup date
- ☐ Arrange temporary lodging (on/off base)
- ☐ Set up mail forwarding with USPS
- \square Notify utility companies of shut-off dates
- Refill prescriptions & transfer to new location
- □ Organize a "first 72 hours" box (clothes, bedding, chargers, documents)
- \square Prep pets: vet visit, vaccinations, travel crates



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Move Week

- Supervise movers (take photos of valuable items)
- ☐ Keep orders and documents with you not packed!
- \square Final walk-through of empty home with checklist
- ☐ Clean property to avoid cleaning fees (use base checklist if on-base)
- \[
 \sum \text{Turn in keys and get confirmation in writing}
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Arrival at New Duty Station

- ☐ Check-in at new command/base within 24 hours
- ☐ Confirm delivery date for HHG or contact TMO if delayed
- Explore neighborhoods, verify commute, school zones
- \square Set up utilities, internet, trash, etc.
- ☐ Register kids in school (have those transcripts ready!)
- Schedule follow-up with your real estate agent

Pro Tips from a 24-Year Navy Vet

- \square Make a PCS Binder: Include orders, passports, IDs, POA, pet records, etc.
- □ Color-code boxes by room it makes unpacking faster.
- □ Avoid peak PCS dates if you can June/July gets crazy.
- \square Keep receipts some moving expenses may be reimbursable.
- \square Know your entitlements imbursable
- Let your real estate agent coordinate sight-unseen tours, utility hookups, and move-in prep.

Bonus: Every family that buys or sells with Praxedes Cotrina chooses a charity to receive a donation in your honor. Additionally, new buyers can receiver up to \$1,000 in benefits. Lastly, sellers keep more money in their pockets – reduced commissions.