



TENANT'S GUIDE: WHAT TO CHECK BEFORE MOVING OUT

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Abstract

Moving out of a rental property can be a big task, but with the right approach, it can be simple and stress free. This guide is designed to help tenants check everything before handing over the keys. From reading your lease and cleaning each room to preparing for the final inspection, it covers all the important steps in clear and easy language. You will also find reminders about returning keys, organising your bills, and making sure nothing is left behind.

We have also included helpful tips based on different suburbs across the Sunshine Coast, such as Little Mountain, Maroochydore, and Caloundra. Property managers in each area may have different expectations, so knowing what they look for can make a big difference. Whether you are moving out for the first time or have done it before, this guide will give you the confidence to leave your rental in great shape and improve your chances of getting your full bond back.



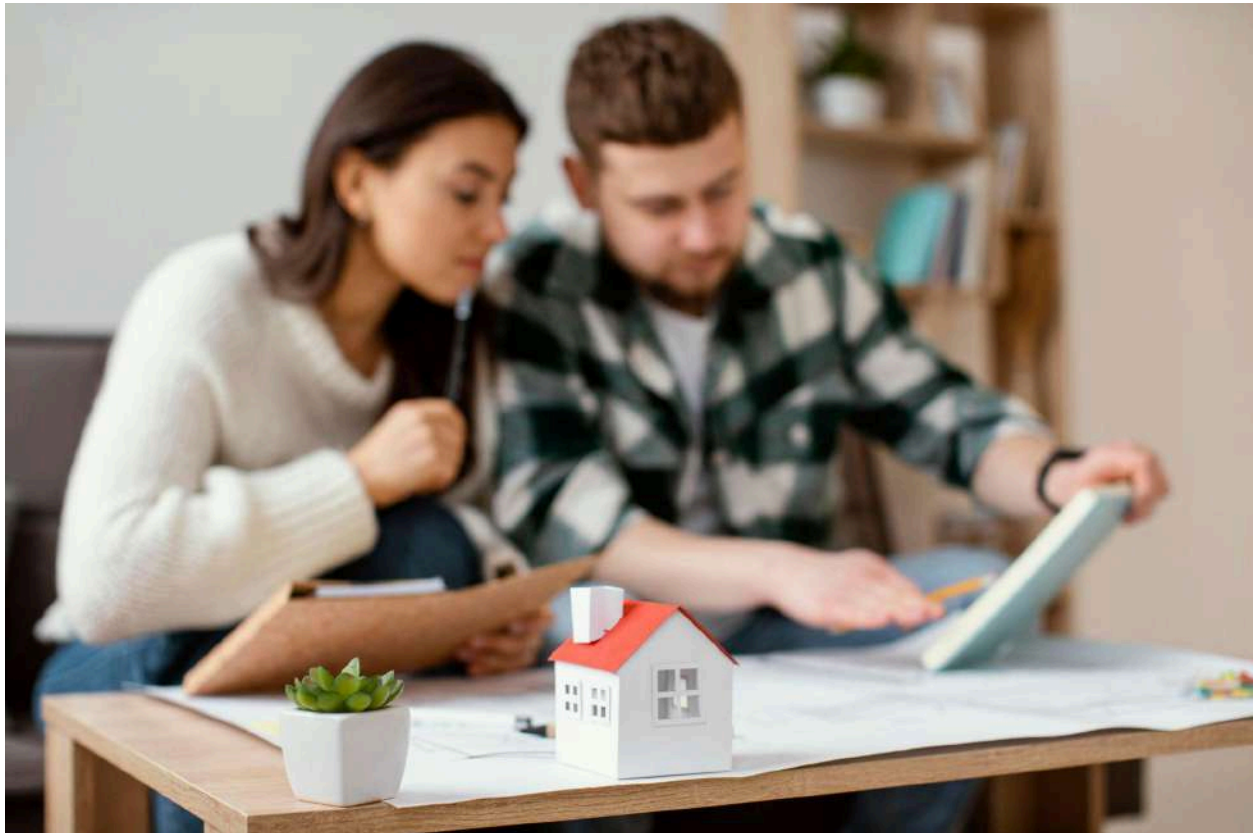
Introduction

Moving out of a rental can be exciting but also stressful. To get your full bond back and keep a good rental record, it's important to leave your property in great condition. This guide helps tenants prepare by covering cleaning, repairs, garden care, and paperwork. It highlights what property managers expect during final inspections, especially in Sunshine Coast suburbs like Maroochydore, and Caloundra, Little Mountain, where standards may differ. Whether new or experienced, using this checklist keeps you organised and stress-free. Follow these steps to move out confidently and ensure a smooth, worry-free process.

Here is a quick guide to help you through your move out process:

1. Review Your Lease and Suburb-Specific Requirements

Before you begin the moving process, one of the most important steps is to review your lease agreement and understand any suburb-specific requirements tied to your rental. Your lease outlines the responsibilities you agreed to when moving in, including cleaning expectations, repairs, and how the property should be returned. Carefully reading this document will help you avoid unexpected issues and ensure you meet the terms set by your landlord or property manager.



In addition to your lease, it's helpful to consider local expectations, especially if you're living in suburbs across the Sunshine Coast such as Little Mountain, Maroochydore, or Caloundra. Different areas may have different standards, especially for things like outdoor maintenance, garden care, or rubbish removal. Some agents or landlords might also include suburb-specific clauses related to pest control or professional carpet cleaning.

Taking the time to understand both your lease and any local expectations will help you stay organised, avoid unnecessary costs, and give you the best chance of receiving your full bond back. If anything is unclear, contact your property manager for clarification before you start your exit process. It's always better to be well informed than to make assumptions when moving out.

Rental bond

If the tenant pays a rental bond, it must be lodged with the Residential Tenancies Authority (RTA). The tenant can lodge their bond directly with the RTA, or the lessor/agent can lodge it on their behalf. A bond can be lodged online via RTA Web Services or by completing the paper Bond lodgement (Form 2). If the lessor/agent is lodging the bond, they must do so within 10 days of receiving payment from the tenant. The maximum bond allowed to be taken is equivalent to 4 weeks' rent, regardless of the weekly rent amount.



Lessors/agents who fail to provide their tenants with copies of the required paperwork face penalties under the Act, as do tenants who fail to complete and return an Entry condition report - general tenancies (Form 1a).

Holding deposits and tenancy agreements

Prospective tenants may be asked for a deposit to place a hold on a premises they wish to rent. A copy of the proposed General tenancy agreement (Form 18a) must be given to prospective tenants before they pay the holding deposit and a holding deposit can only be taken from one prospective tenant for each property. For more information on holding deposits refer to the Rent payments and holding deposits fact sheet.

Minimum housing standards

The property must meet minimum housing standards which aim to ensure all Queensland rental properties are safe, secure and functional.

The lessor/agent is responsible for ensuring the property complies with these standards when the tenant moves in and throughout the tenancy agreement.

Ending tenancy agreements

Tenancy agreements can only be ended in accordance with the Act. Lessors/agents must follow the due process of the Act to end a tenancy or gain possession of the premises, or they could face penalties under the Act. The RTA has a free dispute resolution service. Customers can request dispute resolution via RTA Web Services or by submitting a Dispute resolution request (Form 16). For more information, refer to the Applying for dispute resolution webpage on the RTA website.



In conclusion, reviewing your lease agreement and understanding suburb-specific requirements is one of the most important things to do before moving out of a rental property. Your lease outlines your responsibilities as a tenant, including how clean the property must be, what repairs

or maintenance you're expected to complete, and how much notice you need to give. Reading this carefully helps you avoid issues that may delay your bond refund or cause disputes with your property manager. In areas like Little Mountain, Maroochydore, or Caloundra, some landlords may include extra conditions related to garden maintenance, pest control, or exterior cleaning. These local expectations can vary, so it's wise to check them early.

Understanding your rental bond is also essential. Whether you or your agent lodged the bond with the Residential Tenancies Authority (RTA), it must be done within 10 days of payment. Make sure the Entry Condition Report was completed at the start of your tenancy, as this is used to assess the property's condition when you leave. Also, be aware that the property must meet Queensland's minimum housing standards at all times.

If you have any concerns or if a disagreement arises, the RTA provides free dispute resolution services to help you reach a fair outcome. Ending a tenancy properly requires planning, attention to detail, and clear communication with your property manager. Taking the time to understand your lease and local rental expectations will help you avoid problems, protect your bond, and leave your rental on good terms.



2. Follow a Detailed Bond Cleaning Checklist

When moving out of a rental property, following a detailed bond cleaning checklist is essential to ensure you leave the place spotless and increase your chances of getting your full bond back. Cleaning can feel overwhelming, but breaking it down into specific tasks makes the process

manageable and effective. This includes cleaning kitchens, bathrooms, carpets, windows, and outdoor areas thoroughly. Attention to detail is key, as property managers expect a high standard of cleanliness.



For tenants in Sunshine Coast suburbs such as Little Mountain, Maroochydore, and Caloundra, local property managers may have specific expectations depending on the type of property and its location. For example, properties in coastal areas might require extra attention to remove salt buildup or sand from outdoor spaces. Gardens and lawns in suburban areas like Little Mountain often need to be neatly maintained as well.

Using a detailed bond cleaning checklist tailored to your suburb's typical rental properties helps you stay organised and ensures no area is overlooked. It also reduces stress and avoids last-minute rushes. Whether you choose to clean yourself or hire professional services, this guide will help you understand the key areas to focus on for a successful move-out cleaning.

Moving out checklist

The following Information is for Queensland public housing tenants.

Before you move out

Complete the following tasks before you move out of your home:

- Read your rights and responsibilities in the Pocket guide for tenants – houses and units (Form 17a), which you received when you signed the tenancy agreement.
- Contact your nearest Housing Service Centre at least 14 days before you leave and tell them you want to move out. If you don't, you might have to pay rent after you leave.
- Complete a Notice of intention to leave (Form 13).
- Pay any rent you owe up to the handover day (the agreed date you're leaving).
- Tell us your new address or an address where we can contact you.



- Make sure your home (including the yard) is clean and tidy and take all your belongings with you.
- Complete an Exit condition report (Form 14a). This is your record of the condition of your home when you leave.
- Contact your nearest Housing Service Centre to arrange a joint pre-vacancy inspection of your home. We can help you complete the Exit condition report (Form 14a) and talk to you about the condition of your home before you leave. This may help reduce or prevent charges for repairs (other than fair wear and tear), cleaning or rubbish removal.
- Hand the keys in to your nearest Housing Service Centre on handover day with the completed Exit condition report (Form 14a). If you don't return the keys, we take possession of your home and change the locks.

After you move out

Once you move out, we will:

- inspect the home to see if any repairs, cleaning or rubbish removal is required (we will also check if you have left any belongings behind)
- finalise your rental account up to the handover day
- send you a letter to let you know if there are any outstanding charges for rent or maintenance
- refund you any money left in your rental account (if you have more than \$5 credit) if you've given us a forwarding address – this may take up to 6 weeks.



Final property inspection

We will inspect the property again after you leave. During the final inspection, we compare the condition of the property when you left with the condition when you moved in. To do this, we look at the Entry condition report (Form 1a) you completed when you moved in.

This helps us see what repairs are needed because of fair wear and tear. We don't charge you for this type of repair.

We do charge you for any repairs needed due to damage as well as cleaning, mowing or rubbish removal from the premises you have exclusive use of.

Goods left behind

Items left behind will either be disposed of or stored for 1 month. If your items are stored and you do not collect them within 1 month, we will apply for an order from Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) to dispose of them.

You may be charged for costs to store or dispose of your goods.



If you leave anything in the property when you move out, contact your nearest Housing Service Centre as soon as possible.

Debts for rent or maintenance

We will send you a letter to let you know if you owe money for rent or maintenance/repairs and will contact you to make a repayment arrangement.

Maintenance charges can include repairs (other than fair wear or tear), cleaning, mowing, rubbish removal and costs relating to goods left behind (storage and/or disposal). Read more about maintenance debts.

Getting a rental reference

If you would like a rental reference, ask your nearest Housing Service Centre.

Who to tell when you're moving

It is important to update your contact details when you move, which includes:

- electricity, phone, internet, and gas service providers
- insurance providers: house contents, health, life, and car
- employer
- bank, credit union or building society
- finance services



- Services Australia – Centrelink, Medicare, and Child Support
- Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA)
- Australian Tax Office (ATO)
- Australian Electoral Commission (AEC)
- education providers (e.g. day care, kindergarten, school, outside school hours care, university/TAFE)
- health providers (e.g. dentist, doctor and optometrist)
- paper deliveries and subscriptions
- car registration
- driver's licence
- superannuation funds
- vehicle breakdown service (e.g., RACQ)
- veterinary surgery

- pet registration (local council)
- Pet Microchip Registry
- Linkt (road toll tags).

You can pay Australia Post to redirect mail from your old address to your new address.

Bond Cleaning Checklist

Following a detailed bond cleaning checklist is essential when preparing to move out of a rental property. A thorough clean helps ensure you meet the landlord's expectations, pass the final inspection, and get your full bond back. Cleaning can seem overwhelming, but breaking it down room by room makes the process easier and more efficient. Key areas to focus on include kitchens, bathrooms, carpets, windows, walls, and outdoor spaces. Paying attention to small details like appliances, light fittings, and removing cobwebs can make a big difference. Using a checklist tailored to your property type helps you stay organised and on track.



Bond Cleaning Checklist for Maroochydore

Maroochydore's mix of apartments and houses means bond cleaning needs can vary. For apartment renters, the focus is on deep cleaning interiors especially kitchens, bathrooms, carpets, windows, and light fittings. Balconies should be swept and cleared of any debris. House renters in Maroochydore must also maintain their yards, mowing lawns and removing weeds.

Coastal weather means paying extra attention to salt buildup on outdoor surfaces and cleaning windows thoroughly. It's important to clean appliances like ovens, stovetops, and refrigerators, as well as wipe down cupboards and walls. Maroochydore tenants can benefit from following a detailed bond cleaning checklist tailored to both apartment and house inspections, ensuring no area is missed, which helps secure the full bond amount.

Bond Cleaning Checklist for Caloundra

Caloundra is a popular suburb with many families renting houses that often have larger gardens and outdoor spaces. Bond cleaning here requires a strong focus on both indoor and outdoor areas. Inside, clean bathrooms, kitchens, carpets, walls, windows, and light fixtures thoroughly. Outdoor areas, including lawns, gardens, driveways, and patios, must be tidy and well maintained.



Removing leaves, trimming hedges, and clearing gutters are common expectations. Because Caloundra is close to the coast, some properties may require extra cleaning for salt and sand residue on outdoor surfaces. Tenants should also clean appliances like ovens and exhaust fans carefully. Using a detailed checklist that covers all these aspects helps ensure the property is left in excellent condition, increasing the chances of a smooth inspection and full bond return.

Bond Cleaning Checklist for Little Mountain

Little Mountain, a leafy suburb on the Sunshine Coast, has many rental homes with gardens and outdoor areas that need extra attention during bond cleaning. Apart from thoroughly

cleaning the inside kitchen benches, bathrooms, carpets, and windows tenants should focus on garden maintenance. Lawn mowing, weeding, trimming bushes, and clearing pathways are vital. Outdoor decks and patios also require sweeping and washing to remove dirt and debris.

Due to the suburb's greenery, removing cobwebs and cleaning gutters might be necessary. Inside, don't forget cleaning appliances like ovens and light fixtures, as these are common inspection points. Following a detailed checklist that includes these indoor and outdoor tasks helps Little Mountain tenants leave their property in excellent condition and increases the chance of a full bond refund.

Check out to know more: <https://www.bondcleaninginsunshinecoast.com.au/little-mountain/>



Bond Cleaning Checklist for Buderim

Buderim, known for its leafy streets and family homes, often has rental properties with extensive gardens and outdoor features. When preparing for bond cleaning, tenants must thoroughly clean kitchens, bathrooms, carpets, and windows inside the house. Outside, garden care is essential mowing lawns, weeding flower beds, trimming plants, and clearing leaves from pathways and gutters.

Buderim's humid climate means extra attention is needed for mold prevention and removal, especially in bathrooms and outdoor decks. Appliances like ovens, stoves, and light fittings also require detailed cleaning. Tenants should follow a comprehensive bond cleaning checklist that

covers all indoor and outdoor areas specific to Buderim's style of properties. This helps tenants avoid costly bond deductions and ensures the property meets landlord expectations for a smooth handover.



Bond Cleaning Checklist for Noosa

Noosa's rental properties range from apartments to large homes, often with beachfront or bushland surroundings. Bond cleaning in Noosa requires careful attention to both interior and exterior areas. Inside, kitchens, bathrooms, carpets, and windows need deep cleaning. Outdoor areas, such as patios, decks, and gardens, require clearing leaves, sweeping, and maintaining lawns. Coastal conditions mean extra cleaning to remove salt buildup and sand from outdoor surfaces is important.

Tenants should also clean appliances like ovens, exhaust fans, and light fittings thoroughly. Noosa's properties may also demand pest control measures as part of the move-out process. Following a detailed bond cleaning checklist tailored to Noosa's unique environment helps tenants complete their cleaning thoroughly, avoid disputes, and maximize their bond refund chances.

Following a detailed bond cleaning checklist ensures that every part of your rental property is cleaned to a standard expected by landlords and property managers. Whether you're in Little Mountain, Maroochydore, Caloundra, Buderim, or Noosa, local conditions can influence what

areas need extra attention, especially when it comes to outdoor cleaning, garden maintenance, or dealing with coastal elements like salt or sand.

A checklist helps you stay organised and avoid missing important tasks, from appliance cleaning to outdoor tidy-ups. It also supports a smooth final inspection and reduces the risk of losing part of your bond. Taking time to follow a structured plan whether doing the cleaning yourself or hiring help gives you peace of mind. It's the key to leaving the property in top condition, protecting your rental history, and securing your full bond refund. Careful preparation now can save you time, money, and stress later.



3. Consider Outdoor Standards in Suburbs

When moving out of a rental property, many tenants focus on cleaning the inside but often overlook the importance of outdoor areas. In Sunshine Coast suburbs like Little Mountain, Buderim, Maroochydore, Caloundra, and Noosa, outdoor standards are a key part of the bond cleaning process. Property managers expect tenants to maintain gardens, mow lawns, trim hedges, and clear pathways to leave the property neat and tidy. These tasks show respect for the property and the local community, and they help avoid bond deductions.

Outdoor cleaning can also include removing leaves, sweeping patios, and managing any debris in driveways or outdoor living areas. In coastal suburbs, extra attention may be needed to clear salt deposits or sand that can accumulate on surfaces. Understanding these suburb-specific outdoor requirements makes the move-out process less stressful and helps ensure you meet all

expectations. Taking care of outdoor standards is just as important as indoor cleaning to secure your full bond refund.

You can visit the real estate office to ask for a list of properties for rent in the area. Property owners and real estate agents also advertise in the local newspapers and online.



To start looking online try Realestate.com and Domain.

If you see a property you like you will need to arrange a time to have a look at the property. The real estate agents or property owners will be there to let you in and show you around. There may be other people having a look around as well as you.

For information about buying and owning a home visit Queensland Government.

Renting

Check that the property is convenient for transport and parking and if the rent includes any bills, such as electricity and water.

If you like the property, ask for an application form. The application form is how the property owner can find out about you to see if they think you will be suitable for their property.

On the application form you will have to answer questions about yourself. For example:

- where you have lived before
- how much rent you paid
- your employment
- how much you earn.

You will also need to provide two referees from someone who can guarantee you would be a good tenant.



Rental agreements

If you rent a house, unit, room, caravan or houseboat in Queensland there are rules that you must follow.

A lease (agreement to rent) is a legal document. Don't sign it until you have looked at the property and fully understand the document. The lease will include a period of time where you guarantee that you will live there and pay the rent. This could be anywhere between three months and one year.

Payment of a bond, equal to one month's rent, plus one month's rent in advance, is usual practice when renting. The bond is normally returned when tenants vacate, minus any costs for repairs or cleaning if required.

Know your legal rights

Understand your rights and responsibilities when renting a home. If you have any problems contact the agent or owner in the first. If the problem cannot be resolved you can contact the following organisations for support.

Queensland Statewide Tenant Advice and Referral Service is a free statewide advice and referral service for all Queensland renters, phone 1300 744 263.

Residential Tenancies Authority provides advice about renting housing in Queensland. You can download or order their pocket guide for tenants or phone 1300 366 311.



When moving out of a rental property, many tenants focus on cleaning the inside but often forget the importance of outdoor areas. In Sunshine Coast suburbs like Little Mountain, Buderim, Maroochydore, Caloundra, and Noosa, outdoor standards are a crucial part of the bond cleaning process. Property managers expect tenants to maintain gardens, mow lawns, trim hedges, and clear pathways to leave the property neat and tidy. Taking care of these tasks shows respect for the property and local community and helps avoid bond deductions.

Outdoor cleaning also includes removing leaves, sweeping patios, and managing debris in driveways or outdoor living spaces. Coastal areas often require extra attention to remove salt deposits or sand buildup from surfaces. Understanding the outdoor expectations in your specific suburb helps reduce stress and ensures you meet all requirements for a smooth move-out. By paying equal attention to outdoor areas, tenants increase their chances of receiving their full

bond back. If you need further guidance, property managers and local tenant services can provide helpful advice tailored to your area.

4. Check Regional Cleaning Standards Before Final Inspection

Before your final inspection, it is essential to check the regional cleaning standards specific to your area. Different regions and suburbs can have varying expectations when it comes to bond cleaning, so understanding these standards can help you avoid last-minute surprises. In Sunshine Coast suburbs like Little Mountain, Maroochydore, Caloundra, Buderim, and Noosa, property managers often expect a higher level of cleanliness both inside and outside the rental property. This can include detailed cleaning of kitchens, bathrooms, carpets, windows, and outdoor spaces like gardens and patios.



Knowing the regional cleaning standards ensures you focus on the right areas and use the correct cleaning methods to meet landlord expectations. It also helps you plan your cleaning efficiently and avoid costly bond deductions. Taking time to research or ask your property manager about specific cleaning requirements will make your final inspection smoother and increase your chances of getting your full bond refund. Being prepared with this knowledge is a smart step towards a stress-free move-out.

Leaving the property

Before a tenant leaves a rental property, they should:

- remove all their items
- ensure the property is in the same state of cleanliness and repair as at the beginning of the tenancy, some wear and tear is excepted
- contact the utilities companies and disconnect all services in their name
- update their mailing address with any organisation that sends them mail
- return all the keys at the final inspection
- give the landlord a forwarding address.



Final inspection and condition report

A landlord and tenant must carry out a final inspection together. The purpose of the final inspection is to check the property against the condition report signed when the tenant moved in. The property should be in the same state of cleanliness and repair as at the beginning of the lease. Some wear and tear is excepted.

Tenants should check the condition report before signing it. If the tenant is responsible for damage to the property, they are responsible for either:

- fixing the damage
- paying the cost of having it fixed.

Any agreement about fixing damage to the property should be recorded in writing.

Tenants and landlords don't need a final inspection report if they are going to sign a consecutive tenancy agreement.

Releasing the bond

Once the tenancy ends, tenants or landlords can make a request for a bond refund from the ACT Revenue Office.



A landlord can claim deductions from the bond for:

- damage to the property caused by the tenant
- replacing keys or changing locks if the tenant fails to return all sets of keys
- any rent owing.

If a landlord makes a claim on the bond they must complete and sign a bond release application. The application must contain both:

- a written statement of the reasons for the deduction
- a written estimate of the cost of repairs or restoration.

A tenant will be told by ACT Revenue Office if the landlord is claiming all or part of the bond. If the tenant does not agree, they can dispute this and the dispute will be referred to ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT).



Checking regional cleaning standards before your final inspection is a crucial step to ensure a smooth move-out process. Different suburbs and regions, such as Little Mountain, Caloundra, Buderim, and Maroochydore, Noosa, may have unique cleaning expectations that go beyond general guidelines. Understanding these specific standards helps tenants focus on key areas like kitchens, bathrooms, carpets, windows, and outdoor spaces, including gardens and patios.

Being aware of these requirements can prevent unexpected bond deductions and reduce stress during the final inspection. It's always a good idea to communicate with your property manager or real estate agent to clarify any specific cleaning rules in your suburb. This preparation not only saves time but also increases the likelihood of receiving your full bond back. In short, knowing and following your regional cleaning standards is an essential part of responsible tenancy and successful property handover.

5. Return All Items and Finalise Services Based on Location

When moving out, returning all landlord-provided items and finalising utility services based on your location is essential. In Sunshine Coast suburbs like Little Mountain, Maroochydore, Caloundra, Buderim, and Noosa, specific rules may apply for returning keys or remotes. Notify service providers about your move-out date to avoid extra bills for electricity, water, gas,

internet, and phone. Some areas may also require changes to rubbish collection or garden services. Handling these tasks carefully helps prevent unnecessary charges and ensures a smooth move-out process. Being thorough reflects well on you as a tenant and supports a positive rental history.

As a renter, moving out of your current space at some point is inevitable. However, it's not going to be as simple as packing up your belongings and moving to the next spot. You have a lot to do, and the task of moving out of a rented spot can be daunting, not to mention finding the best moving company for you.



Enter our handy checklist. Once you've completed this list, you should officially be ready to turn in your keys. But before you do, remember to give your new forwarding address to your landlord, so they know exactly where to return your security deposit.

Why Complete All The Items on This Checklist?

When you moved in, it's more than likely that you were required to put down money as a security deposit, which may have been upward of a month's rent.

Landlords charge security deposits to ensure that, if anything was damaged during the duration of your occupancy, they are guaranteed that the funds are available for them to make the necessary repairs before the next tenants move in. However, if you've managed to successfully

make it through your lease without causing any damage to the rental, it's important that you get that money back.

Here is our breakdown of tasks by room:

In The Bedroom(s)

- Repaint the room back to its original color, and remove any temporary wallpaper that you may have put up.
- Remove all nails, hooks or mounted mirrors from the walls and ceiling, and follow your lease agreement as far as how to handle filling any holes.
- Check for scuff marks in areas where the bed and other furniture meet the wall, and paint over them if needed.
- Ensure that the closets are emptied and cleaned.



In The Bathroom(s)

- Disinfect and clean the showers, bathtubs and sinks, paying special attention to soap, lime, rust or other types of buildup that may be clinging to any metal hardware.
- Clean all mirrors using a glass cleaner and a streak-free rag.
- Remove any hair from in and around the drains and ensure there are no clogs.
- Use a cleaner and a brush to clean the inside of the toilet, and use a disinfectant on the outside.
- Repair any broken tiles.

- Remove any mold or mildew that may have grown over time.
- Clean the grout and tiles.

In The Living / Family Room

- Check the walls for any scuff marks, and repair any that are found.
- Check for and remove any scuff marks on the floor that may have been caused by shifting furniture.
- Remove any remaining wood and ash from the fireplace, and be sure the flue is shut.



In The Kitchen

- Wipe down the walls, paying special attention to the backsplash and other areas surrounding the stovetop where grease and food buildup could be.
- Clean both the insides and outsides of cupboards, drawers and pantries. Consider using a vacuum hose extension to remove any stubborn crumbs that are not easily wiped away from the corners.
- Remove, donate or throw away anything remaining in the refrigerator and freezer, and wipe both the inside and outside of the appliance clean with a disinfectant cleaner. Don't forget to dust the top.
- Defrost the inside of the freezer.
- Turn off the ice maker.
- Sweep and mop the floor.
- Clean both the inside and outside of the microwave.

- If the microwave is built-in and suspended, be sure to wipe the bottom clean.
- If the microwave sits on a countertop, be sure to clean underneath it to remove any crumbs or debris.
- For an electric stove top, remove any food debris and wipe the glass clean.
- For a gas stove top, remove and clean on, around and under the burner grates.
- Clean the inside of the oven by wiping down the inside racks and drip trays and removing any food particles.
- Clean both the inside and outside of the dishwasher, being sure to remove any particles of food that may have collected on the bottom or in the filter.
- Clean out the garbage disposal to ensure that no food is stuck inside and no smell will linger.
- If you're able to safely move them, sweep behind and underneath the stove and refrigerator.



Don't Forget

Here are some last-minute tasks that you may forget, even if your apartment looks spotless.

- Dust and wipe down the ceiling fans and air vents in all rooms.
- Dust and wipe down any built-in plastic or wooden blinds.
- Dust and wipe down any window sills.
- Wipe down all windows from the inside using a glass cleaner and a streak-free rag.
- Dust away any cobwebs from the corners and ceilings of all rooms.

- Wipe down all door frames and ensure all locks are functioning normally.
- Sweep patios, porches and balconies to remove any dirt and debris.
- For any rooms with carpet, be sure to vacuum and check that it is free of rips, stains and other damages.
- For any rooms with tiles or wood floors, be sure to sweep and properly clean them.
- Clear out and wipe down the insides of any linen or storage closets.
- Wipe down all light switch plates and doorknobs with a disinfectant.
- Replace any burnt-out lightbulbs.
- Take out and dispose of any last-minute trash and recycling.
- Check to be sure that the washing machine and dryer are both empty, and remember to clean out the lint catcher.



- Ensure that all appliances are working properly.
- Clean and empty out the garage if you have one.
- Replace any items that were in the space when you moved in that you may have chosen to temporarily remove.
- Leave all major appliances plugged in unless otherwise stated in your lease or by your landlord.
- Don't forget to remove all moving boxes and supplies.

You deserve that deposit back if you treated your rented apartment well, and this checklist will help you get there. Not only will this checklist help you pack properly, but Follow all the steps on

the list and you'll have a much better chance of receiving your full deposit to put toward your next place.



Final Words

When moving out, returning all landlord-provided items and finalising utility services based on your location is essential. In Sunshine Coast suburbs like Little Mountain, Maroochydore, Caloundra, Buderim, and Noosa, specific rules may apply for returning keys or remotes. Notify service providers about your move-out date to avoid extra bills for electricity, water, gas, internet, and phone. Some areas may also require changes to rubbish collection or garden services. Handling these tasks carefully helps prevent unnecessary charges and ensures a smooth move-out process. Being thorough reflects well on you as a tenant and supports a positive rental history.

When moving out, it's crucial to return all landlord-provided items and finalise utility services based on your location. In Sunshine Coast suburbs like Little Mountain, Maroochydore, Caloundra, Buderim, and Noosa, specific rules may apply for returning keys or remotes. Notify service providers about your move out date to avoid extra charges for electricity, water, gas, internet, and phone. Some areas may require changes to rubbish collection or garden maintenance. Managing these tasks carefully helps prevent unnecessary costs and ensures a smooth move out. Being thorough reflects well on you as a tenant and supports a positive rental history.

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