

PETER & VICKY ROYSTER
REALTOR®

(713) 805-6247

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BEFORE YOU PACK A BOX

30 DAYS OUT

Thirty days out, a few smart moves now save you stress later:

1
Lock In Your Move

Get estimates from a few moving companies, or reserve a rental truck (and an appliance dolly) if you're doing it yourself.

2
Gather Supplies & Make a Plan

Boxes, tape, rope — plus a packing plan that saves what you use least for last.

3
Handle the Paper Trail

Update your address everywhere that matters, and save moving receipts — some expenses are tax-deductible if your move is job-related.

4
Traveling to Your New Home?

Book transportation and lodging in advance, and leave a copy of your itinerary with family or friends.

See our packing tips ahead for more on making moving day easier.



THE FINAL COUNTDOWN

TWO WEEKS OUT & THE DAY BEFORE

As moving day gets close, these last details keep everything on track:

1
Utilities & Services

Notify and get refunded from current utilities — gas, electric, water, cable, phone — and arrange service at your new address.

2
People & Logistics

Recruit a team to help on moving day, arrange care for kids or pets, and have your car serviced if it's a long drive.

3
Confirm the Essentials

Confirm your moving company or rental truck, and keep moving materials separate so they don't get packed by mistake.

4
The Morning Of

Pick up your rental truck if moving yourself, and fill up your car with gas — check the oil and tires too.

One more sleep, then it's moving day.



LOOSE ENDS WORTH TYING UP

A FEW MORE THINGS TO HANDLE

A handful of extra items that are easy to forget — but worth doing before you go:

1
Your Money & Records

Transfer your bank accounts, and request records from doctors, dentists, and schools before you leave.

2
The Big Stuff

Draw up a floor plan for your furniture, and line up special movers for a piano, pool table, or anything oversized.

3
Loose Ends Around Town

Cancel or transfer deliveries and utilities, and check the photo shop, safe-deposit box, or repair shop for anything you forgot.

4
Keep It Close

Carry valuables, documents, and jewelry with you, and purchase moving insurance for anything irreplaceable.

Crossing state lines? Check with your attorney about your will before you go.



THINKING ABOUT A GARAGE SALE?

A garage sale means less to pack — and a little extra cash before you go.

Here's how to make it worth your time.

1 Getting Ready

Set it up for success before anyone shows up.

✓ Give yourself three or four weeks to prepare
✓ Pick a weekend date that doesn't conflict with a holiday
✓ Team up with neighbors for a bigger, busier sale
✓ Clean, polish, and repair items before pricing them
✓ Group like items together, with popular items up front
✓ Place a classified ad and hang flyers at local coffee shops

2 Sale Day

Make it easy for people to buy — and to stay.

✓ Have plenty of change on hand, kept in a protected spot
✓ Post a sign: all sales final, cash only
✓ Provide directional signs and adequate parking
✓ Offer ice water on hot days, hot chocolate on cold ones
✓ Tell us about your best pieces — we may have a buyer in mind



PACKING LIKE A PRO

TIPS THAT ACTUALLY SAVE TIME

A few habits that keep boxes organized — and your stuff intact:

1
Box It Up Right

Use sturdy containers, keep boxes under 50 lbs, and cushion contents with paper to prevent breakage.

2
Label As You Go

Mark each box with its contents, its room, and whether it's fragile or needs to come off the truck first.

3
Protect the Fragile Stuff

Clean rugs and drapery before the move, and wrap books and dishes separately.

4
Carry It Yourself

Jewelry, documents, and collections travel with you — not the truck. Your bank can move a safe-deposit box for you.

Seal anything that could leak, and label boxes “unload first” for what you'll need right away.



MOVING WITH KIDS

Moving is hard on grown-ups. Imagine what it's like for kids starting over in a new home, school, and neighborhood. A little intention now makes a big difference in how they adjust.

1 Before the Move

Give them a head start on the transition.

✓ Visit your new community and set up an activity or two before the move
✓ Give your kids space to talk about how they feel
✓ Help them list the friends and family they'll stay in touch with
✓ Let older kids pack and decorate their own boxes
✓ Help them say goodbye to important people — a small party works well

2 Keep in Mind

Your mood sets theirs.

✓ Stay upbeat and calm — kids take their cues from you
✓ Don't pack their treasures; keep blankets and favorites with you
✓ Add travel games for the drive or flight
✓ Once you're there, don't rush unpacking — take walks, and listen when they get home from that first day of school



MOVING WITH PETS

KEEP THEM SAFE, KEEP THEM CALM

Pets feel the upheaval of a move too — a little planning keeps everyone comfortable:

1
Flying With Cats & Dogs

Get a health certificate from your vet, confirm crate requirements with the airline, and put a piece of your scent on clothing in their carrier.

2
Driving With Cats & Dogs

Plan rest stops, water, and a leash every time the door opens — and call ahead, since not every hotel allows pets.

3
Small Animals

Hamsters, birds, and mice travel fine in the car with food, water, and a cloth-covered cage to keep them calm.

4
Fish

It's not practical to move a fish tank — plan to rehome your fish and restock the aquarium when you arrive.

Your vet and local pet store are great resources either way.



MOVING YOUR HOUSEPLANTS

A LITTLE EXTRA CARE FOR YOUR PLANT BABIES

A few tips to help your plants make the trip safely:

1

A Few Weeks Out

Check USDA regulations if you're crossing state lines, and prune plants to make packing easier.

2

A Week Before

Treat plants for pests in a sealed bag overnight so nothing hitches a ride to your new home.

3

The Day Before & Day Of

Box plants in dampened paper, mark boxes “DO NOT LOAD” if they're riding with you, and punch air holes for the trip.

4

When You Arrive

Unpack right away, ease them into more light gradually, and park somewhere shaded in summer or sunny in winter.

Leaving a plant behind? Take cuttings in a damp paper towel instead.



MOVING DAY HAS ARRIVED

THE FINAL WALKTHROUGH

Before you hand over the keys or lock the door behind you, a few last things:

1

Walk Every Room

Check closets, cabinets, the garage, and the attic — it's easy to leave something behind in the rush.

2

Read the Meters

Take a final photo of your water, electric, and gas meters for your records before you go.

3

Hand Off the Keys

Gather every key, garage remote, and gate code — for your old home and your new one.

4

Say Thank You

A tip and a thank-you go a long way with your moving crew — they've earned it.

Take one last look, then head to your new front door.



MAKING IT FEEL LIKE HOME

THE BOXES ARE IN. THE KEYS ARE YOURS.

Now comes the part no one really talks about — those first few days in your new home.

1

Secure the House

Change the locks or rekey (you never know who still has a key), and test your smoke detectors.

2

Know Where Everything Is

Locate your main water, electrical, and gas shut-offs before you ever need them.

3

Settle In, Don't Rush

Set up the essentials first — toilet paper, towels, a coffee maker — and walk the home slowly without distractions.

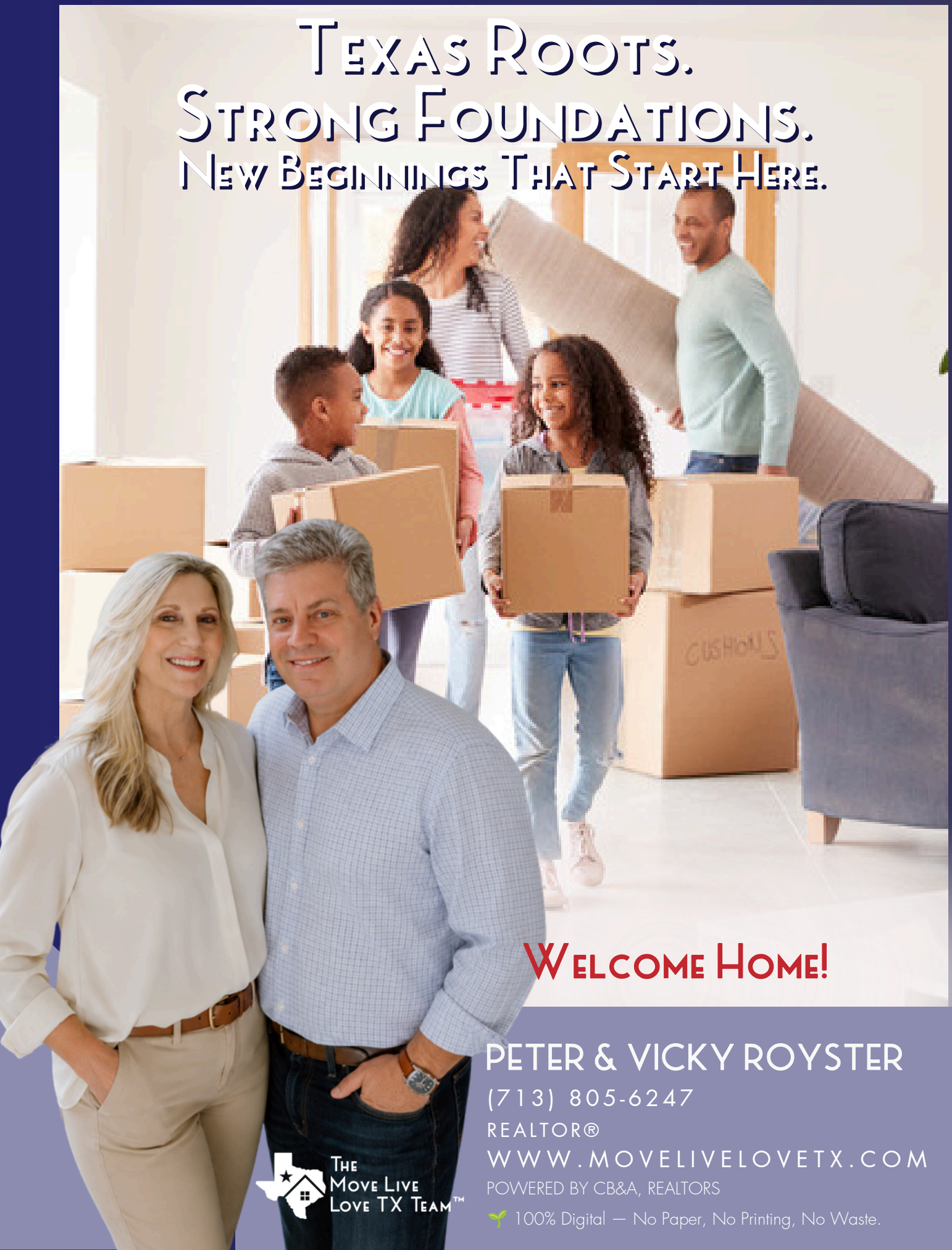
4

Make It Yours

Meet a neighbor, start a “home file” for warranties and receipts, and call us anytime — questions, recommendations, or just who do we call for this?

This is where a house starts becoming your home.

Texas Roots.
Strong Foundations.
New Beginnings That Start Here.



Welcome Home!

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