Moving to Australia Checklist

You might find the following helpful when making the move to Australia:
(This is a guide only, individual circumstances may differ.)

6 Weeks Before You Depart

Banking

- [ ] Contact International Customer Services (ICS) to help organise all of your family's banking needs. **www.commbank.com.au/movingtoaustralia**
- [ ] Monitor the exchange rate to consider when the best time may be to transfer your money to your new account.

Immigration

- [ ] If you are going to be shipping your household belongings, consider finding a removalist company that can assist you.
- [ ] Check that all travellers have a passport that is valid for at least five years after their arrival in Australia.
- [ ] If you have pets consider contacting your airline to establish what steps you need to take to bring them with you.
- [ ] Consider what visas may be required for your trip.

Insurance

- [ ] Make enquiries with insurance companies about getting yourself and any of those travelling with you, covered for your upcoming trip. This may include life, health and travel insurance.

Travel

- [ ] Organise airline tickets for all travellers.
- [ ] If a driver's licence is required, you may need to consider organising an International Driver's Permit. **www.austroads.com.au**
- [ ] Organise transportation to the airport.

Internet

- [ ] All travellers may consider organising an Australian email address prior to arrival in Australia. For example, Yahoo, Ozemail, Bigpond, Optus.

Employment

- [ ] If you are going to be looking to secure employment in Australia, you may wish to update your resume/ curriculum vitae.
- [ ] Register with well known recruitment websites such as:
  - **www.careerone.com.au**
  - **www.workingin-australia.com**
  - **www.seek.com.au**
  - **www.mycareer.com.au**
  - **www.adecco.com**

House Matters

- [ ] Take the time to consider what sort of accommodation suits your needs. Temporary or permanent accommodation listings can be found at either:
  - **www.realestate.com.au**
  - **www.domain.com.au**

Taxation

- [ ] It may be beneficial for all travellers to contact the Australian Taxation Office and obtain any relevant documents that may need to be completed before you arrive in Australia. **www.ato.gov.au**

Education

- [ ] If any of the travellers are children, consider what schools are in the area that you will be living in.
- [ ] Administrative work may need to be completed prior to your arrival. You may also like to organise education needs for yourself:
  - **www.aqf.edu.au**
  - **www.deewr.gov.au**

3 Weeks Before You Depart

Banking

- Ensure that you have received your account number and the SWIFT details from International Customer Services.
  www.commbank.com.au/movingtoaustralia
- Travellers may like to transfer funds into their new account.
- It might also be a good idea for all travellers to change some cash into Australian dollars prior to arrival in Australia.

Home Matters

- Tell all relevant organisations, family and friends when you are moving and what your new address will be in Australia.
- Contact your utilities providers to advise them of when you would like the services to be cancelled.
- Confirm service meter readings and keep copies of all the relevant documentation.
- Arrange for your post to be re-directed to your new address.

Travel

- Contact your chosen airline and confirm the luggage allowances.
- All travellers will need to begin packing their main suitcase.
- Confirm all airport transfer arrangements.

Documentation

- It may be beneficial to make copies of all your important documents, including:
  - Passport
  - Vaccination records
  - Visa
  - Marriage certificate
  - Shipping documents
  - Airline tickets and itinerary
  - Driver's licence and International Driver's Permit
  - Hand over files from dentists, schools and doctors
  - Birth certificate
- You may find it beneficial to obtain extra passport size photographs.

Medication

- Make sure that all your prescription medication is up to date. It may be important to check if your prescription medication can be brought into Australia and you may need to obtain a letter from your doctor to accompany it.
- Arrange private health cover for Australia if it is required.

1 Week Before

Travel

- Finish packing and weigh all suitcases to ensure that they meet the airlines luggage allowance limits.
- Pack carry-on luggage. Be sure to check what you can and cannot bring into Australia.
  www.smarttraveller.gov.au
- Pack all of your valuables separately from your main luggage. Be sure to include any original documentation that you do not require for travel with these items.
- Pack activity sets for any young travellers.

Housekeeping

- Pay any outstanding bills that you may have.
- Ensure that all goods and belongings that are being sent to Australia have left or are on their way.
- Cancel any incidentals like newspaper and milk deliveries.
- Destroy any surplus personal documents and records that you no longer require.

Upon your arrival in Australia

- Contact family and friends back home and let them know that you have arrived safely in Australia.
- Visit your nominated Commonwealth Bank branch to be identified and activate your account.
- Visit your nearest Medicare Office.
  www.medicareaustralia.gov.au
- Visit your State's nearest roads authority office to obtain a driver's licence if required.
- Explore your local area.