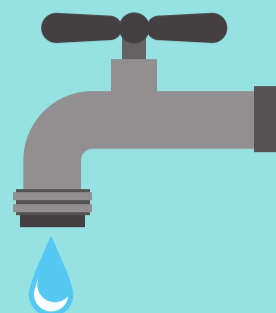


# NEW HOME TASKS



Moving into a new home? These tips can ease the transition and help you get settled faster.

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## 1 CHANGE THE LOCKS

And, while you are at it, reprogram your garage keypad. If you hire a locksmith, you can reduce your expenses by supplying the locks yourself, so you are just paying for the locksmith's time.

## 2 LOCATE IMPORTANT VALVES

Take note of where the main water and gas valves are located. You need to know how to turn them off in case of a plumbing or possibly a weather emergency.



## 3 TEST YOUR CIRCUIT BREAKER

Something else important to locate is the circuit breaker box. Test each breaker and verify that they are properly labeled.

## 4 CLEAN OR REPLACE FILTERS

It's a good idea to start out with clean filters so that you will know when they need to be replaced next time. This includes air filters, water and aeration filters and also filters in dryer vents.



## 5 ORGANIZE WARRANTY INFORMATION

Create a filing system to keep track of receipts, warranties and instruction manuals. When you need to schedule a warranty repair, you'll be glad that you know exactly where the receipt and warranty card are.



## 6 UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS

While this is a quick and easy thing to do with the US Postal Service, it's often overlooked. Also, you can directly let banks, employers, insurance providers and doctors' offices know that you have moved.



## 7 THINK ABOUT SAFETY

Test and replace batteries in the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, put at least one fire extinguisher on each floor and create a new emergency evacuation plan.



## 8 MEET THE NEIGHBORS

Your neighbors can be a valuable source of information, like when is trash day and where is the best pizza close by. Ring their doorbell and introduce yourself.