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Planning a move with a tween

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The good news is that the economy is improving and this brings a flood of interest in moving to new homes and apartments. That can spell bad news for kids who don't want to move and worry they won't be able to make new friends. In a recent survey by [Rent.com](#), **almost 70% of the respondents say they move at least once during their child's school years and most are concerned about how their child will do in a new neighborhood.**

Many families will opt to move during the summer, making this month a time of transition. The basics of moving furniture and prepping to leave a home are covered on most web sites including [Move Central](#)

that has this time saving tip, "move dressers with drawers full to avoid repacking."

Knowing what to do is not as easy when it comes to moving with children, especially a tween. Here are a tips from Rent.com:

Be up front: Tell your tween as soon as possible about the move so they have time to adjust to the idea of change. Give your kids as much information as you can about the upcoming move and answer their questions truthfully. Involve them in the moving preparations by talking to them about the places you're seeing and share photos or videos of potential new homes. This will help them feel valued in the process and will help you uncover what's most important to them in a new home.

Take care of special items including Mr. Bun Bun: Whether it's their favorite music collection or stuffed animal, give your tween a box to pack their favorite things. Make sure you keep these in a special place during the move so they don't get lost or end up on a moving truck that might result in a long separation from your child.

Making space personal: To help your tween feel truly at home in his or her new place, give freedom to decorate the bedroom and make it a comfortable space. Allowing them to choose their paint color, curtains, bedding and décor will get them more excited about the move, help them feel more in control and ultimately give them a safe haven from the stress of a new city.

New best friends: There can never be a replacement for your child's first best friend. Be sure you allow time for your tween to express grief over losing that friendship. Look for ways to get them involved with the things they already love to do will put them at ease and help them make friends that much quicker.

Around town and school: To reduce some of the anxiety, find ways to help your child learn his or her way around the new neighborhood and school. Make it fun by turning into a scavenger hunt; even running errands can be fun if your kids are trying to guess what store you're headed to next!