

Your first 30 days in Germany

Fill and save in a PDF reader, or print. Your entries stay in your copy.

Before travel: protect your start date

Your deadlines depend on your entry and work situation. Check the conditions and expiry dates on your visa or residence documents, and whether work is permitted. Confirm appropriate health cover from arrival and any transition to employment cover.

- ☐ Entry documents and work conditions checked with the official authority
- ☐ Accommodation address and arrival arrangements confirmed
- ☐ Health-cover start date and contact details confirmed
- ☐ Passport and necessary certificates packed; secure copies available

When you move into your home

The general registration rule is within two weeks after moving into a dwelling, subject to statutory exceptions. Use your city's official registration instructions. Request the Wohnungsgeberbestätigung; the housing provider confirms the move-in. If you cannot obtain it in time, inform the registration authority promptly.

- ☐ Move-in date and applicable registration requirement checked
- ☐ Housing-provider confirmation requested
- ☐ Registration completed, or authority contacted about an obstacle

Move-in date / registration deadline / appointment or contact

Make everyday payments work

- ☐ Existing or new account supports salary and required payments
- ☐ Payroll has confirmed the details it needs
- ☐ Rent and other recurring payment arrangements checked

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During the rest of your first month

- ☐ Residence-permit follow-up checked where required; expiry recorded
- ☐ Employer and insurer have the documents they requested
- ☐ Electricity, internet and other separate household services arranged
- ☐ First payslip and first full month of bills reviewed
- ☐ One recurring local activity chosen, alongside moving admin

Done means you have the confirmation or the service works. An application sent, unanswered email or booked appointment may still need follow-up.

Most urgent outstanding task / why it matters

Who can resolve it / official contact / reference number

Next action / due date / evidence to save

At the end of the month

Move unfinished tasks into your next-month plan. Review actual costs against estimates and check that no temporary cover or residence document is about to expire. Keep one folder for confirmations rather than another list of completed applications.

Track your tasks in the online moving checklist

Use the moving planner

Official sources / checked 7 September 2026

Federal Registration Act sections 17 and 19 (www.gesetze-im-internet.de)

Official visa and arrival guidance (www.make-it-in-germany.com)