

Do's and don'ts of relocating to a new home.

Relocating? Here are a few things to keep in mind as you prepare for your next journey in your new home.

Do ...

- Pay all your credit cards and any other debt on time before you even start considering a mortgage.
- Keep a positive balance in all your checking and savings accounts with sufficient funds to close a loan.
- Keep your money right where it is. Changing banks or moving money will require explanation, which will just be more paperwork for you and your lender.
- Provide any documentation your loan originator asks for in a timely manner. It may seem like you are handing over quite a bit of information, but keep in mind that you are asking the lender to trust you with hundreds of thousands of dollars.
- Factor in your lifestyle. A lender will give you a range that includes the top end of how much home you can afford. That number is based on your current expenses, not the future.

Don't ...

- Buy a vehicle. Even if you are paying cash.
- Take on any new debt (even if the salesperson offers you a 20% discount on your purchase).
- Make out-of-the-ordinary large deposits. If you must, be prepared to provide a clear paper trail detailing where the money came from and why.
- Buy big-ticket items on your credit cards.
- Omit or exaggerate information on your application.
- Make sudden changes in your spending habits (unless it's to save more) or with your income.

For more information, call (800) 581-6683 or email us at Relocation@RocketMortgage.com.

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