

# Before You Leave

## Best Use

As a guide to help your young adult gain confidence before leaving for college, renting his/her own apartment, etc.

## Summary

It can be both emotional and exciting to help your child leave the nest. Before they pack up and drive away, plan for a weekend or a day together doing something fun. Use the time to go through a checklist of basic life skills they will need and helpful items that can set them up to succeed. The reverse side can help guide a conversation that will highlight a few areas in which your child might welcome some last-minute guidance or coaching.

## Ready to Go?

**Car:** Are you confident handling basic car issues such as changing a tire, checking tire pressure and fluid levels?

- **Tip:** If moving to a new town, help your child check with [AAA.com](http://AAA.com) or a local mechanic to identify a reputable mechanic in the area.

**Laundry:** Do you know how to wash and dry a load of laundry? Colors and whites?

- **Tip:** Consider a fun trip to the laundromat for your child to figure out how to use a different machine than you have at home.

**Food:** Can you cook a few nutritious meals?

- **Tip:** Let your son/daughter choose a meal and guide them through the preparation and cooking process. Enjoy the time together as you create a fun memory that will also increase their odds of survival!

**Money:** Do you have a budget?

- **Tip:** Consider going online to [daveramsey.com](http://daveramsey.com) to download budget forms to fill out with your child.

**Health:** What doctor will you visit if you get sick?

- **Tip:** Help your child have a plan for any medical emergencies and/or finding a new doctor if moving to a new town.

**Church:** If moving to a new town, what church will you attend?

- **Tip:** Ask a pastor at your present church for suggestions on how to find a good church in the area. Also, consider visiting different churches together with your child and then discussing what he/she did and didn't like. If going away to college, get information on groups like CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ) and other Christian college organizations.

**College Campus:** If going to school, are you confident that you will be able to find your classes, etc.?

- **Tip:** Take time to walk around campus together and help your child get a good feel for where everything is located.