

How to Use This Kit

Moving to Dubai — Complete Expat Relocation Kit — 2026 Edition

Relocating to Dubai involves roughly a dozen government and commercial processes that all depend on each other: your visa unlocks your Emirates ID, your Emirates ID unlocks your bank account and tenancy, your tenancy unlocks your utilities. Doing them in the wrong order costs weeks. This kit puts everything in dependency order so you always know your next step.

What's inside

- ☐ **Master Timeline** — every task from 8 weeks before departure to your first 90 days, in order.
- ☐ **Documents & Attestation Checklist** — the paperwork to prepare before you fly (the #1 cause of delays).
- ☐ **Visa & Emirates ID Tracker** — the standard employer-sponsored sequence with a status box for each step.
- ☐ **Guides** — housing & Ejari, banking, driving-licence conversion, healthcare, phone/internet.
- ☐ **Worksheets** — monthly budget planner, moving-cost tracker, accounts & important-numbers register.
- ☐ **First 7 Days** — the exact order to do things in your arrival week.
- ☐ **Scams & Costly Mistakes** — the traps that catch new arrivals.

Print or fill digitally

Print the whole kit and keep it in a binder, or print only the checklists. Everything is A4 and prints fine on US Letter.

Important disclaimer. Government fees, visa rules and processes in the UAE change frequently. This kit describes the standard process as commonly experienced and was last reviewed in **July 2026**. Always confirm current rules and fees on official channels — GDRFA / ICP (visas & Emirates ID), RTA (driving), DEWA (utilities), MOHRE (labour) — or with your employer's PRO before paying anyone. This kit is general information, not legal advice.

Created by The Calm Kit Co. Designed and reviewed by the shop owner with AI assistance (Anthropic's Claude) for drafting and organisation. Personal use only — please don't redistribute or resell.

The First 7 Days — In Order

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Day	Do this
Day 1	Land, enter on entry permit. Airport SIM. Cash for the week. Sleep — jet lag makes bad decisions.
Day 2	Send PRO your arrival confirmation + any missing documents. Walk your temporary neighbourhood: supermarket, pharmacy, metro. Install the week-1 apps.
Day 3	Medical fitness test (as soon as PRO books it). Start the bank-account conversation (which branch, which documents).
Day 4	Emirates ID biometrics appointment. Begin apartment viewings (rent-range recon only).
Day 5	Open bank account if documents allow. Set up your home-country money-transfer route (small test transfer).
Day 6	More viewings. Rush-hour commute test to your office from your 2 favourite areas.
Day 7	Admin audit: use the Visa Tracker — what's blocked, and which single earlier step unblocks it? Plan week 2. Do one purely fun thing — you live here now.

Your only real jobs in week 1: **medical, biometrics, bank**. Everything else is reconnaissance. If those three move, you're on schedule.

Accounts & numbers register (fill as you go)

Item	Number / ID	Where stored
Entry permit / visa file no.		
Emirates ID no.		
Bank account + IBAN		
Ejari no.		
DEWA account		
Chiller account		
Salik + plate no.		
Health-insurance member no.		
PRO / HR contact		