

# New Homeschooler Checklist

Everything to do in your first 30 days — legal, curriculum, community, and setup.

## Legal & Registration

- Look up your state's homeschool law — requirements vary widely
- File notice of intent with your school district or state (if required)
- Formally withdraw your child from public or private school
- Set up a basic student file and keep copies of all filings
- Know your state's record-keeping and testing requirements

## Home Setup

- Designate a learning space (doesn't have to be a full room)
- Gather basic supplies: pencils, notebooks, printer paper, bookshelves
- Set up a printer — you will use it more than you expect
- Create a simple system for organizing completed work

## First Month Habits

- Start school — even before you feel completely ready
- Keep a simple daily log of what you covered
- Allow a deschooling buffer if pulling kids from traditional school
- Revisit your schedule after 2–3 weeks and adjust as needed
- Celebrate your first week — this is a big deal

## Curriculum & Planning

- Decide on your general approach (classical, Charlotte Mason, eclectic, unschooling...)
- Research and compare curriculum options for each subject
- Order or download your curriculum materials
- Set your school year start/end dates and holiday breaks
- Draft a rough weekly schedule — just a starting point

## Community & Support

- Search for a local homeschool co-op or support group
- Join at least one online community (Facebook groups, forums)
- Find support for your specific approach or faith tradition
- Practice your 30-second explanation for friends and family

**Need your state's specific requirements?** Visit [homeschoolfrontier.com/states/](https://homeschoolfrontier.com/states/) and look up your state for laws, testing dates, and deadlines.

Tip: You don't need to have everything figured out before you start. Most homeschoolers say they wish they'd started sooner.