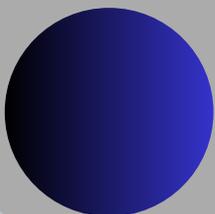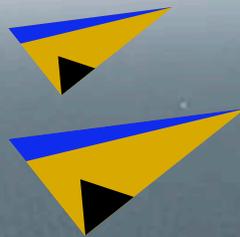# THE PAD-AND-PLUG TEST

The try before you buy plan

The Pad-and-Plug Test is a strategic "dry run" designed to mitigate the significant risk of a permanent move. This 30 to 90-day simulation allows you to fully immerse in a new environment, moving beyond assumptions to test the genuine viability of your intended lifestyle. The goal is to surface and resolve hidden "friction points"—whether they relate to the practical realities of housing, the reliability of local utilities, the accessibility of groceries, or the sustainability of work arrangements—before you commit long-term equity or time to an unsuitable location.

Flight Tower Books

THE PAD-AND-PLUG TEST

Mapping Your 30–90 Day Simulation

Area	Current Assumptions	Test Conditions & Plan (30-90 Days)	Metrics for Success
🏠 Housing	(e.g., We can find a rental easily.)	Secure a short-term rental/lease (Airbnb, VRBO, short-term lease). * Ensure the housing situation mimics the actual environment (e.g., rural vs. suburban, solar power vs. grid power).	Was the housing easily found within budget? * Was the daily living environment acceptable?
🛒 Groceries	(e.g., We can get everything we need locally.)	Shop exclusively at local stores/markets you would rely on long-term. * Avoid relying on your previous supply chains. * Attempt a full pantry/storage meal plan.	Are essential items available and affordable? * Did a full week of local shopping work?
💡 Utilities	(e.g., Internet will be fine for remote work.)	Use only the intended utilities (e.g., rely solely on well water, cellular data/satellite internet). * Track usage and any service interruptions.	Was internet stable enough for work? * Was water pressure/supply sufficient? * Did power systems handle the load?

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Area	Current Assumptions	Test Conditions & Plan (30-90 Days)	Metrics for Success
💼 **Work /In-come**	(e.g., Remote work will be sustainable here.)	Operate as you would long-term. If working remotely, test the internet speed and reliability. If seeking local work, attempt job hunting.	Was the workspace functional? * Were income streams stable/reliable in the new locale?
📅 **Timeline**	(e.g., We need 90 days to test this.)	Start Date: [Date] End Date/Decision Date: [Date] Exit Plan: Have a clear plan to wrap up the test and return if necessary.	Did we stick to the timeline? * Are we confident in the final decision?

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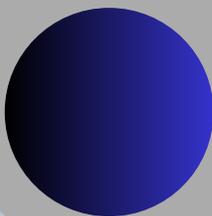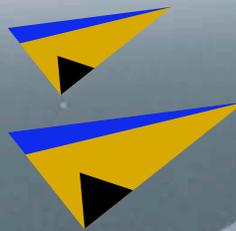
THE PAD-AND-PLUG TEST

Mapping Your 30–90 Day Simulation

Final Decision & Next Steps

- Overall Confidence Level (1-10): [ ]
- Go/No-Go Decision: [ ]
- Key Friction Points Identified (e.g., slow internet, bad water taste)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Actionable Next Steps: List 3 actions to address the friction points or proceed with the move.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

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THE PAD-AND-PLUG TEST

The try before you buy plan

The Pad-and-Plug Test provides the final data needed to make a smart, confident decision. By actually living in the location for 30 to 90 days, you confirm the reality of daily life—from utilities to work life—and either resolve the friction points identified or decide to walk away. This real-world test ensures your long-term commitment is based on experience, not just hope.