



# Apartment Hunting Checklist



**OFF CAMPUS STUDENT SERVICES**

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OFF CAMPUS STUDENT SERVICES | 226 CURRY STUDENT CENTER | NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY | BOSTON, MA 02115-5000

## Money Matters

Monthly Rent?  
Security Deposit?  
Brokers Fee?  
Are utilities included? If not, how much will they cost?  
Is the apartment furnished? If not, can I afford to furnish it?

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## Safety

Are the door locks adequate (is there a deadbolt)?  
Are there locks on the windows (especially basement and first floor units)?  
Are the hallways and outside entrance well lit?  
Is there a doorbell or intercom system?  
Are there peepholes in the door(s)?  
Is there an alarm system or security personnel?

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## Kitchen

Is it large enough to eat in?  
Is the sink in good condition?  
Does the faucet work?  
Does the sink drain? Does it seal (in order to fill)?  
Is the stove/oven clean?  
Do the burners and oven work properly?  
Are there adequate cabinets and countertops?  
Is the floor in good condition?  
Is there a vent fan?  
Is there a dishwasher?  
Is there a garbage disposal?  
Are the refrigerator and freezer large enough?  
Are there enough electrical outlets?

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## Heating

Can I control the heat?  
Is the house/apartment insulated?  
Are there storm windows?  
Are there heat ducts or radiators in each room?

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## General

Is there parking?  
Are there water stains on the ceilings or walls?  
Can I hear the neighbors?  
Can the neighbors hear me?  
Are there signs of mice or pests?  
Is there adequate closet space?  
Has the apartment been freshly painted?  
Can the mailbox be locked?  
Are the entrances and hallways large enough to allow an easy move in?  
What storage space is available?

## Landlord

Is the landlord generally available?  
Will he or she respond promptly when repairs and maintenance are needed?  
Have any of my friends rented from this person before?  
What do other tenants think about the landlord?

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## Comfort

What floor level is the apartment on?  
Is it within a reasonable distance to campus?  
Are there laundry facilities on the premises?  
Are they safe and well lit?  
Is the apartment near public transportation?  
Is it close to grocery stores?

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## Bathroom

Do the faucets leak?  
Are the fixtures chipped, stained, or rusted?  
Are the tiles loose or cracking?  
Is there a shower? Curtain rod or door(s)?  
Is there a medicine cabinet?  
Are there mirrors, toilet paper holder, and towel racks?  
Is there good lighting?  
Is there a vent fan?  
Are the electrical outlets usable and safe?  
Is there adequate water pressure? (to test, turn on water in the tub and sink, and flush the toilet at the same time)  
Will there be adequate hot water?  
Does each apartment have its own hot water tank? How many gallons? (ten gallons per person is recommended)

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## Electrical

Are there grounded outlets in each room?  
Is the circuit breaker or fuse box within easy access?  
Do all the outlets and light switches work?

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## Neighborhood

What is the general condition of the building?  
Have there been any burglaries or other crimes in the area?  
Is the building on a main street/high traffic area?  
Will I be happy living in this apartment for nine months or a year?