TOP 10 THINGS
YOU SHOULD KNOW BEFORE RENTING!

10. START EARLY- Start your apartment search now so that you have time to see a wide variety of apartments; rent the best deal for you, not the quickest.

9. USE THE APARTMENT HUNTING CHECKLIST- Visit www.offcampus.neu.edu and the “Get Started” link for helpful checklists; check out the other helpful resources as well to support your apartment search.

8. UNDERSTAND YOUR RIGHTS – Go to www.cityofboston.gov/rentalhousing to learn your rights and responsibilities as a tenant and avoid future problems!

7. FIND A REALTOR/LANDLORD/PROPERTY MANAGER YOU TRUST- If you get a bad feeling or they have a reputation of poor performance, questionable practices or problems in the past, move on!!

6. TALK TO CURRENT TENANTS- No one knows more about an apartment than the current occupants. Ask about any problems, cost of utilities, the landlord or property manager, and the neighbors. Do your homework!

5. MAKE SURE ALL TENANTS ARE ON THE LEASE – If you’re not on the lease, you don’t have tenant rights; protect yourself!

4. NO MORE THAN FOUR- Boston Zoning Code prohibits more than 4 full-time undergrads living in one unit, regardless of its size.

3. GET EVERYTHING IN WRITING– Make sure any amendments or additions to the lease are made BEFORE signing, and get receipts for ANY money you pay to your landlord and realtor.

2. ASK ABOUT THE NEIGHBORS - Consider possible conflicts between your lifestyle and those of the neighborhood; BE CONSIDERATE of the families, professionals, and elders who could be your new neighbors.

1. IS THE APARTMENT YOU ARE CHOOSING SAFE? - The City of Boston requires that all units are inspected and meet the State Sanitary Code; check the status of your potential apartment at www.cityofboston.gov/ISD/housing/rental.asp