



Apartment Hunting Checklist

OFF CAMPUS HOUSING & SUPPORT SERVICES | 151 SPEARE | NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY | BOSTON, MA 02115

Money Matters

- Monthly Rent?
 - Security Deposit?
 - Brokers Fee?
 - Are utilities included? If not, how much will they cost?
 - Is it furnished? If not, can I afford furniture?
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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 ceiling 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 doors/hallways large enough to allow moving?
- 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 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?
 - Is there a shower? Curtain rod or door(s)?
 - Are the tiles loose or cracking?
 - 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 lights 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?