

FINDING YOUR DREAM APARTMENT

Whether you're getting your own place for the first time, moving for work or just upgrading your place, finding the perfect apartment to call home can be a challenge. Use this worksheet to pinpoint the factors that matter most. If you're moving in with roommates, this can be a great way to get everyone on the same page, too.

Now let's find you that dream apartment!



NAME(S)

Bonus tip: Bring this worksheet along when viewing apartments to make comparing them easier!

BUDGET (How much do you want to spend on rent?)

Preferred budget range for rent: \$ _____ to \$ _____ /monthly	Max budget for rent (for the perfect place): \$ _____ /monthly
Preferred budget range for utilities: \$ _____ to \$ _____ /monthly	I prefer an apartment with utilities included: <input type="checkbox"/> Heat <input type="checkbox"/> Electric <input type="checkbox"/> Water/Sewer <input type="checkbox"/> Internet <input type="checkbox"/> Cable Television <input type="checkbox"/> No utilities included
Preferred budget range for parking: \$ _____ to \$ _____ /monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> I am willing to pay a separate fee for parking <input type="checkbox"/> Parking costs must be included in rent <input type="checkbox"/> I don't need parking
Preferred budget range for security deposit: \$ _____ to \$ _____	Are you able to pay first and last months' rent in advance? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS ("I won't consider any apartments that don't have AT LEAST...")

Number of bedrooms: <input type="text"/>	Number of bathrooms: <input type="text"/>	Number of parking spots: <input type="text"/>
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PREFERRED REQUIREMENTS ("I'd really like an apartment that has...")

Number of bedrooms: <input type="text"/>	Number of bathrooms: <input type="text"/>	Number of parking spots: <input type="text"/>
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IDEAL SIZE (How much space do you need?) Hint: A one-bedroom apartment is usually 500 to 800 sq. ft.

At least: _____ sq. ft.	No more than: _____ sq. ft.
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MOVE-IN DATE (When would you like to start your lease and move in?)

Preferred move-in date: _____	Do you have any flexibility around your move-in date? _____
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LEASE TERMS (What kind of leasing contract are you willing to sign?)

<input type="checkbox"/> Yearly	<input type="checkbox"/> Month-to-month	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
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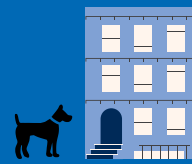
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WHAT'S YOUR APARTMENT LIVING STYLE?







Check which feature you prefer or indicate "no preference."

FEATURE	I Prefer		
Story	<input type="checkbox"/> First-floor unit	<input type="checkbox"/> Second floor or higher	<input type="checkbox"/> No preference
Entrance	<input type="checkbox"/> Private entrance	<input type="checkbox"/> Shared entry/lobby	<input type="checkbox"/> No preference
Pets	<input type="checkbox"/> Allowed	<input type="checkbox"/> Pet-free	<input type="checkbox"/> No preference
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/> Fully furnished	<input type="checkbox"/> Unfurnished	<input type="checkbox"/> No preference
Age of building	<input type="checkbox"/> Under 10 years old	<input type="checkbox"/> 10+ years old	<input type="checkbox"/> No preference

WHICH APARTMENT FEATURES MATTER THE MOST TO YOU?

Put a checkmark (or number, where indicated) to show your preferences!

APARTMENT FEATURES	 Must-Have!	 Slightly Prefer	 Indifferent	 Want to Avoid!
Dogs allowed: Number: _____ Weight Limit: _____				
Cats allowed: Number: _____				
Other pets allowed: (specify: _____)				
Assigned/reserved parking				
Covered/heated parking (e.g., underground garage)				
Off-street parking				
Guest parking permitted				
Central heating (forced air)				
Radiant heating (radiators)				
Central air conditioning				
Ductless or window A/C				
Fireplace (write wood, gas or electric in the appropriate column(s))				
Open floor plan				
Updated kitchen				
Dishwasher				
Gas stove				
Walk-in pantry				
In-unit laundry				
Laundry on premises				
Hardwood floors				
Carpeted floors				
Walk-in closet(s)				
Window treatments included				
Private balcony or patio				
Door buzzer/intercom system				
Security system				
Other:				

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO LIVE?



NEIGHBORHOOD FEATURES	Strongly Prefer	Slightly Prefer	Indifferent	Want to Avoid!
Rural or country living				
City center or downtown				
Metropolitan area (in or near the city, but not in the city center or downtown)				
Suburban or commuter				
Small town (not suburbs)				

NEIGHBORHOODS Do you have a preferred location?

Preferred neighborhoods or areas:	Avoid these neighborhoods and areas:
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PARKING NEEDS Do you have a car or other vehicle?

I need parking. Number of vehicles _____

I prefer:

Assigned/reserved parking in a: Garage Surface lot/off-street

Unassigned/reserved parking in a: Garage Surface lot/off-street

On-street parking (be sure to ask if a permit is required from the city!)

I do not need parking

NEARBY "I want to be close to..." (Mark all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Public Transit:	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation areas:
<input type="checkbox"/> Subway stop	<input type="checkbox"/> Parks
<input type="checkbox"/> Bus stop	<input type="checkbox"/> Hiking or walking trails
<input type="checkbox"/> Light rail, commuter rail or train stop	<input type="checkbox"/> Biking trails
<input type="checkbox"/> Schools:	<input type="checkbox"/> Retail and entertainment:
<input type="checkbox"/> Elementary School	<input type="checkbox"/> Shopping
<input type="checkbox"/> Middle or Junior High School	<input type="checkbox"/> Grocery stores
<input type="checkbox"/> High School	<input type="checkbox"/> Restaurants, cafes and bars

SCHOOL DISTRICT Is there a specific school district you want to live in?

School district(s):

WINDOW ORIENTATION What direction would you like your windows to face? (Select all that apply)

North
 South
 East
 West
 No preference

COMMUNITY AMENITIES “I’d prefer an apartment community with these amenities...” (Mark all that apply)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pool: | <input type="checkbox"/> Shared spaces: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor | <input type="checkbox"/> Community room/party room |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hot tub <input type="checkbox"/> Sauna | <input type="checkbox"/> Business center/printing center |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor grills and/or barbecues | <input type="checkbox"/> Media center/resident movie theatre |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness center/gym | <input type="checkbox"/> Community coffee bar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electric car charging stations | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety and security: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bike parking | <input type="checkbox"/> On-site building manager/super/etc. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pet wash | <input type="checkbox"/> On-site security |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Package locker | <input type="checkbox"/> Doorman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Storage units available | <input type="checkbox"/> 24/7 on-call maintenance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elevators | <input type="checkbox"/> Regularly scheduled community social events |

OTHER FACTORS Before you sign that lease, make sure you know the answers to these key questions!

- Is renters insurance required?
 - Do I need to show proof of insurance?
 - Are there required coverage minimums (e.g., for liability)?
- What are rent payment options — credit card, check, bank transfer, online payments, etc.?
- What’s the late payment fee? Is there a grace period for late payments before the fee applies?
- Is my move-in date flexible?
- Is it possible to break the lease if I need to move out early?
- Is there a financial penalty for breaking the lease?
- Is there an extra deposit fee for pets? Is it refundable when I move out?
- Are there any breed restrictions for pets?
- How much does rent typically increase at renewal?
- What’s the guest policy?
- Can I sublease the apartment if I need to?
- How is trash, recycling, lawn care and snow/ice removal handled?
- Is there an apartment application fee?
- Can I paint the apartment or make other cosmetic changes?
- Are there any plans to update the building or neighboring areas that would result in construction noise?

THE BEST RENTAL DECISION YOU CAN MAKE

No matter which apartment you choose, there’s one feature no renter should ever go without: your renters insurance! Renters insurance is an easy and affordable way to protect the belongings you love and work so hard for — not just your furniture, but also your television, gaming consoles, smart home devices, clothing, jewelry and more!

Choose American Family Insurance renters insurance to take control of:

- ✓ What you protect at home and on the go when you build your own policy
- ✓ What you pay with great discounts — sign up for the Generational discount or bundle your renters and auto policy for big savings!



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