

Apartment Comparison Checklist

Apartment Complex: _____

Address: _____

Living Space

- | | yes | no |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Will my furniture fit in the apartment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • In the elevator? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Through the front door? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Up the stairs and around corners? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are closets adequate? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Do closet doors operate smoothly? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are kitchen and bathroom cabinets adequate? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Do drawers and doors open and close easily? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is the floor squeaky? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are waterbeds permitted above the first floor? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are windows and natural light ample? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are pets allowed? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there an additional fee? _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Signs of roaches or mice? Look behind and under counters, sinks, dishwashers, inside closets, drawers, and along baseboards. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Does landlord provide regular exterminating services? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are there areas of stains or bubbly paint indicating water seepage? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is window cleaning provided? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • How often? _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- | | yes | no |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Nearby public transportation, churches, schools, supermarkets, pharmacies? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there a clubhouse? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Does it have a library? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Media rooms or mini-theaters? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Security

- | | yes | no |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Are the grounds fenced? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Gated to prevent unauthorized access? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are doors equipped with dead-bolt locks? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Does the door have a viewer? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Do all windows lock? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there a full-time security person? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are visitors announced? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there a front door access system, such as a phone or a buzzer with intercom? (<i>Test it.</i>) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Security cameras in entrances, hallways and elevator? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are mailboxes secure? (<i>Look for signs of tampering.</i>) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is the lobby well lighted? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Locked after hours? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are hallways brightly lighted at all times? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Straight without dark corners or hidden alcoves? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

The Building and Common Areas

- | | yes | no |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Is there a resident superintendent? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • What hours? _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are hallways and stairways cleaned? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are washers and dryers available? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there a charge? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are parking facilities adequate for tenants and guests? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there an elevator? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is it well lit? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there an emergency alarm? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Fire exits other than the main entrance? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Fire alarm system? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Hall sprinkler system? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is the mailbox adequate to receive parcels? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there trash disposal? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are dumpsters enclosed? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Heating and Cooling Systems

- | | yes | no |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Is temperature even? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are there drafts? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are registers adequate? (<i>There should be at least one register per room with several returns throughout the apartment.</i>) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there a humidifier? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Does the humidifier work? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Can you control the temperature level? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • What is average monthly/annual heating and cooling cost? monthly _____ annual _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • What direction does the apartment face? (<i>North and east exposures may require up to 20% more heat in winter; south and west exposures may require more energy for cooling.</i>) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there a fireplace? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Does the flue damper operate properly? (<i>Fireplaces can actually increase energy expense by creating a net heat loss.</i>) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there a wood-burning appliance, such as a stove or fireplace insert? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are water heater and appliances energy-efficient models? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Apartment Community Amenities

- | | yes | no |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Does the community offer on-site day care and latchkey activities? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are community and personal garden areas available? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Nature trails and park areas? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Does your apartment offer recreational facilities, such as a fitness center, tennis or basketball court, or pool? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there a safe place outside for relaxing or for children to play in good weather? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Appliances

- | | yes | no |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Are washer and dryer hookups available? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Full size or stackable? _____ | | |
| • Are furnished appliances in good working order? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are they adequate to meet your needs? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • What capacity is the water heater? _____ | | |
| • Does it produce sufficient hot water to accommodate your needs? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Who is responsible for repairs, you or the landlord? _____ | | |

Plumbing

- | | yes | no |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Is water pressure sufficient? (To test, turn on taps in both kitchen and bath at the same time.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Does water get hot within a reasonable amount of time? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Does the water run rusty? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there air in the pipes? (rattling or hammering in lines when shut off) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are faucets easy to operate? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Do they drip? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Do sinks drain quickly? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Do showers have curtains or doors? _____ | | |
| • Do bath and shower areas have tile and grout? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is mildew present? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Do toilets flush properly? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are toilet tank seals in order? (Can be checked by putting a few drops of blue food coloring in tank. If blue shows up in bowl, the seal is leaking.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Electrical

- | | yes | no |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Are receptacles grounded? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Do all outlets work? (Check with a small plug-in night light.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are there enough outlets in each room? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are smoke alarms working? (Test them.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Do sockets work? (Use a light bulb to check.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there ample lighting in the bathroom, especially at the mirror? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there direct light for work areas in the kitchen? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Will the electrical service handle the load based on all your appliances? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Technology Amenities

- | | yes | no |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Does the apartment feature private in-unit alarm systems? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • In-wall speaker systems with surround sound? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Video libraries and video-on-demand service? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Computer workstations with high-speed Internet access? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is cable TV available? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Satellite TV? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there a charge? _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is there a place you can install your own satellite dish? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is high-speed Internet access available? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Cable modem? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Multiple phone lines? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Noise

- | | yes | no |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Is front door solid and not directly across from doors to other apartments? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Do windows and sliding glass doors fit tightly? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Has insulation been installed to reduce noise traveling between common walls and floors? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Can you hear your neighbors? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Does sound from built-in noisemakers (faucets, drains, furnace, air conditioner, garbage disposal, dishwasher) travel through the apartment? (Test them) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • What about outside noise? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Is the street heavily traveled? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Near a hospital, | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • police or fire station, | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • airport, railway, or noisy place of business? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Ventilation

- | | yes | no |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Is there a range hood or wall-mounted fan in the kitchen? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are there exhaust fans in bathrooms? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Do windows open and close easily? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are screens and storm windows in good condition? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are furnace and air conditioner blower filters clean? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Does landlord supply replacements? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • What is the cost? _____ | | |

Apartment Home Amenities

- | | yes | no |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Does your unit have a private entry? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Attached garage? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • How high are ceilings? _____ | | |
| • Does your apartment have bay windows and skylights? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Double-sided fireplaces in master bedroom and living areas? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Are expanded concierge services available, such as plant watering, | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • dog walking, | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • dry cleaning pick-up and delivery, | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • and grocery shopping? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



This checklist is courtesy Atlas Van Lines, Inc. and its agents.
Taken from "How To" Guide number 9 –
"How To Make a Smooth Apartment Move".