



MY PRETTY THOUGHTS

Apartment Move-In Checklist

A practical workbook for choosing, moving into, and maintaining a home that works for you

100 PAGES / YOUR NEXT CHAPTER

A little structure. A fresh start.

Use this workbook to turn an apartment move into a sequence of manageable decisions. It contains 100 planned pages: one cover, one contents page, and fourteen modules with seven distinct pages each. Every module includes a lesson, checklist, action plan, comparison worksheet, reflection page, seven-day tracker, and review. The modules progress from housing requirements and lease questions through budgeting, packing, inspection, move-in, daily routines, and a final settling-in review. On comparison pages, place apartments, services, or approaches in columns and assess them against the four listed criteria. On tracker pages, use Days 1–7 as columns and the four measures as rows, marking nonapplicable days clearly. Adapt activities for roommates, partners, families, solo moves, disabilities, pets, limited budgets, and different building types. Focus first on safe occupancy and essential functions; a finished-looking apartment can wait.

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This workbook offers general organization and household-planning information, not legal, financial, medical, building-code, or professional safety advice. Lease terms, tenant protections, deposit rules, utility arrangements, and emergency procedures vary by location and building. Ask the property contact for written clarification and consult qualified local professionals or tenant resources when appropriate. Do not perform unsafe repairs, disturb suspected hazardous materials, or use appliances contrary to manufacturer instructions. Cost estimates and timelines are planning tools, not guarantees.

THE GUIDE

1. Define Your Housing Requirements and Search Priorities

Begin with the daily life your apartment needs to support, not the appearance of a listing. Record household members, pets, work patterns, mobility requirements, storage needs, and any equipment that requires reliable power or connectivity. Separate nonnegotiable requirements from preferences and features you can add later. Consider the full journey to work, school, care, groceries, and public transport at the times you actually travel. A nearby destination may still be difficult to reach because of stairs, traffic, poor lighting, or service frequency. Set a realistic search area and a preliminary housing-cost ceiling, leaving room for utilities and other essentials. Discuss privacy, guests, shared space, and household responsibilities before choosing a home with others. During viewings, test practical questions about noise, ventilation, usable space, and access rather than relying on staged photographs. Record observations immediately so similar apartments do not blur together. Treat urgency as a constraint to manage, not a reason to ignore significant concerns or skip verification.

What matters most to you here?

YOUR CHECKLIST

1. Define Your Housing Requirements and Search Priorities

Start with what fits your situation. Mark each item when it is complete.

- ☐ List household, pet, work, and access requirements.
- ☐ Separate nonnegotiables from preferences.
- ☐ Map essential journeys at realistic travel times.
- ☐ Set a preliminary total housing-cost ceiling.
- ☐ Discuss shared-living expectations with future household members.
- ☐ Create one consistent viewing-notes form.

Anything else to check?

MAKE A PLAN

1. Define Your Housing Requirements and Search Priorities

01 Write five requirements that would rule an apartment in or out.

My next step / who can help / target date

02 Test two typical journeys from each shortlisted area.

My next step / who can help / target date

03 Agree on household decision rights and search responsibilities.

My next step / who can help / target date

04 Score viewed apartments using the same written criteria.

My next step / who can help / target date
