

Things to Look For Before Committing to a Lease

	Yes	No
<i>Do all the appliances work? (oven, burners, microwave, fridge, dishwasher, etc.)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Are all locks (in apartment and in building) in reasonable condition? *Check the doors for signs of break-ins.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Do the taps/shower provide adequate water pressure?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Is there hot water?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Are the drains clogged?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Are the sinks or bath-tub cracked or leaking? *Check for water damage.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Is the plumbing working properly? *Flush toilets and check toilet handle to test.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>If the apartment/room is furnished, is it in reasonable condition? *Note any damages that are present.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Are there any damage to floors, carpets, or walls?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Are there three-pronged electrical outlets in every room?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Do the outlets work? *Bring a cell phone charger to test outlets.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Are phone/cable jacks available in working order?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Are there enough electrical outlets for all your lamps/appliances?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Do all light switches work?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Does the apartment have its own thermostat?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Are there radiators or heating ducts in each room?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Do all windows in unit open and close properly?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Do all windows fit properly? *Loose windows can affect heating costs.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Are all window coverings and screens undamaged?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Are there locks on windows that are at street level?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Are locks and doorknobs secure?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Is there proper ventilation (i.e. vents above stove and bathroom in working order, HVAC unit in working order)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Are there fire exits in the back and front of the building?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Is there proper safety equipment installed? (i.e. smoke detector, carbon monoxide detectors, and fire extinguishers)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Is there a fire detector in the hallway?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Are janitorial services offered for common areas?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Is there enough storage space for all belongings?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Are there signs of rodents or insects? *Check for chew marks or droppings.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Are there signs of mould or mildew?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Are there cracks or dents in the walls/baseboards? *Could be a sign of structural damage.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Note any specific damages below (i.e. scratches, dents, broken objects, etc.). Be sure to include size, color, location, and room.

Be sure to sign a document with your landlord that has a detailed account of the conditions in the apartment prior to you moving in. Note any damages and take pictures.