First Apartment Checklist

From the first viewing to feeling at home, one stage at a time.

Move-in _____

Before you sign

- [ ] Visit at different times of day
- [ ] Run the taps and check the hot water
- [ ] Open the windows and test the outlets
- [ ] Look for leaks, mold or pests
- [ ] Read the whole lease before signing
- [ ] Ask which utilities are included

Before move day

- [ ] Set up power and internet
- [ ] Get a quote to insure your things
- [ ] Change your address
- [ ] Book movers, a truck or friends
- [ ] Measure doorways and big furniture
- [ ] Pack a first-night bag

Move-in day

- [ ] Photograph every room before unpacking
- [ ] Write down any damage you find
- [ ] Test the smoke and CO alarms
- [ ] Find the breaker box and water shutoff
- [ ] Make the bed first

Notes

First week

- [ ] Unpack the kitchen and bathroom
- [ ] Hang curtains or blinds
- [ ] Learn the trash and recycling days
- [ ] Save the manager's contact details
- [ ] Say hello to a neighbor

First things to buy

- [ ] Toilet paper, soap and towels
- [ ] A shower curtain and liner
- [ ] Sheets and a pillow
- [ ] A plunger and a first aid kit
- [ ] A few basic tools

Notes

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