

First Apartment Checklist

THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO-DO AND TO-BUY LIST FOR YOUR FIRST FLAT

FIND A FLAT

- Choose a neighbourhood
- Contact an estate agent or search on SpareRoom, OpenRent, etc.
- Ask all the necessary questions:
 - Are utilities included in rent?
 - What is the average cost of bills?
 - Who pays the bills in the flat?
 - What is the landlord like? How much do you interact?
 - Does the landlord fix issues quickly?
 - How long have the other tenants lived there?
 - What are the other tenants like? Where do they work? What time do they come home from work and what do they like to do in the evenings?
 - How is the water pressure?
 - What's the area like? Are there things to do nearby?
 - Do the flatmates hang out or merely coexist?
 - Is the landlord good about returning deposits?
 - Is it quiet at night (outside and from flatmates)?
 - Do any flatmates smoke?
 - Is there a cleaner? How do you split chores?
 - What time do other flatmates use the bathroom in the morning?
 - When someone moves out, do the flatmates have to find a replacement or does the landlord take care of it?
- Make an offer
- Pay deposit and sign contract

TRAVEL

- Book Uber or taxi to new flat
- Check public transport

MOVING ARRANGEMENTS

- Organise picking up keys from estate agent or landlord
- Buy boxes + packing tape
- Find and book a removals company
- Ship items (if required)
- Clean your old flat (or book cleaners)
- Arrange to drop off keys for old flat
- Request deposit back from former flat

SET UP UTILITIES + ACCOUNTS

- Council tax
- Electricity and gas
- Water
- Internet
- Mobile phone provider
- Voter registration

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CHANGE ADDRESSES

- Redirect post with Royal Mail
- Banks
- Mobile phone provider
- University
- Job
- HMRC
- Pension provider
- Gym
- Subscriptions
- TV license
- GP
- Cleaner
- Professional services (accountant, solicitors, etc.)

WHAT TO BUY FOR YOUR FLAT

- Mattress topper
- Duvet
- Pillows
- Sheets
- Hamper
- Organiser units for extra storage
- Under-bed storage bins
- Command hooks

WHAT TO BUY FOR YOUR FLAT

- Full-length mirror
- Command strips
- Clothes horse
- Hangers
- Brita jug
- Brita filters
- Pots and pans
- Basic spices
- Sponges
- Washing up liquid
- Steel wool
- Bin bags
- Laundry pods
- Tea towels
- Drying rack for dishes
- Crockery
- Cutlery
- Cutlery organiser
- Cooking utensil set
- Knife set
- Chopping boards
- Microwave
- Kettle

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WHAT TO BUY FOR YOUR FLAT

- Strainer
- Wine glasses
- Water glasses
- Big mixing bowl
- Baking dish
- Large bin
- Dishwasher tablets
- Dishwasher salt
- Dishwasher rinse aid
- Paper towels
- Paper towel holder
- Blender
- Cafetiere
- Tupperware
- Rug / bath mat
- Shower organiser
- Toilet roll
- Toilet brush
- Bathroom bin
- Hand soap
- Towels
- Toilet paper holder
- Clarifying shampoo

WHAT TO BUY FOR YOUR FLAT

- Shower head water softener
- Mould cleaner
- All purpose cleaner
- shower cleaner
- Floor cleaner
- Toilet cleaner
- Drain unblocker
- Moisture trapper
- Cleaning rags
- Antibacterial wipes
- Hoover
- Mop
- Door wedge
- Painter's tape
- Plug adapters
- Power strip / extension lead
- Electric heater
- Google Nest Mini
- Air mattress