

What to Look for When Viewing a Place to Live

Here are some quick tips to help guide you when checking out a living space.

Come Prepared!

- Create a budget that includes rent, utilities, food costs, and other general living expenses
- Make a list of amenities and must-haves (i.e. laundry in-unit, parking space, specific amenities etc.)
- Bring a tape measure to measure doorways, hallways, and rooms for large objects

Inspection Time!

- Thoroughly inspect for damage (i.e. leaks, mold, pest infestations, holes in walls, etc.) and check to ensure appliances and outlets work
- Check that smoke and carbon dioxide detectors are installed and functional
- Ask if the locks were changed after the last tenant
- Note the cleanliness of the place and overall complex/home
- Scope out the neighborhood! What is the traffic like? Is it noisy? How far from campus is it? Where are the nearest shops/pharmacies/etc.?

What Now?

- Be open to comparing your options
- Speak with the landlord/property manager to see what their vibe is
- Ask questions and apply for the place as soon as you are ready