

Everything You Need for Your First Apartment: The Ultimate Checklist -2018

Entryway

This is what guests first see. Just as important, it's where you clean up from the rain or snow.

- **Area rug or mat** (inside the door, for putting wet shoes and umbrellas)
- Welcome mat (for outside the door)
- Small table (for mail, keys, etc)
- Mirror
- Umbrella holder
- Shoe storage (especially if you don't wear shoes indoors)
- Coat rack or wall hooks (if you don't have a coat closet)
- _____
- _____
- _____

Living Room

Where you relax, host guests and spend much of your time.

- **Couch, chairs or other things to sit on**
- **Coffee Table**
- Stereo/Speakers
- Lamp(s) (even if there's an overhead light, they provide better atmosphere)
- Television
- TV stand
- Streaming device (Roku, Chromecast, etc., if no cable)
- Bookshelves
- Ottoman
- Magazine rack
- End table or console table
- Throw pillows
- Artwork
- Plants
- Vase (for flowers)
- _____
- _____
- _____

Kitchen

Making meals requires tools, which means a lot of kitchen necessities.

- **Food**
- **Silverware** (including serving utensils)
- **Silverware organizer** (drawer insert)
- **Refrigerator** (comes w/apartment in U.S.; you need to purchase in many other countries.)

- **Dishes** (plates, glasses, mugs, bowls, serving platters, etc)
- **Microwave**
- **Toaster or toaster oven**
- **Coffee maker** (if you drink coffee - and don't forget filters!)
 - Coffee grinder (if you don't buy pre-ground)
- **Pots and pans**
- **Oven mitts**
- **Spatulas, ladles, whisks, etc.**
 - Container for countertop storage of spatulas, ladles, whisks, etc
- **Trash and recycling cans**
- **Dish drying rack**
- **Measuring cups and spoons**
- **Mixing bowls**
- **Baking sheets**
- **Bottle opener and corkscrew**
- **Can opener**
- **Good quality knives (including bread knife)**
- **Dish soap and sponges/scrubbers**
- **Hand towels**
- **Dish towels**
- **Plastic or glass containers for leftovers (e.g., Tupperware, Gladware or Pyrex)**
- **Kettle or hotpot**
- **Cutting boards**
- **Colander**
- **Paper towels**
- **Peeler**
- **Kitchen scissors**
- **Hand soap**
- **Small wine rack**
- **Fruit bowl**
- **Additional free-standing shelves or storage as needed**
- **Rolls of aluminum foil, wax paper, plastic wrap, parchment paper**
- **Zip-top plastic bags**
- **Ice cube trays (in U.S., likely comes with refrigerator)**
- **Blender**
- **Hand mixer**
- **Spice rack**
- **Spices**
- **Airtight containers for staples like flour, sugar, oats, etc**
- **Cupboard liners**
- _____
- _____
- _____

Dining Area

Your dedicated area to enjoy your meals, it should feel comfortable.

- **Table and chairs**
- Tablecloth or placemats
- Trivets
- Candles and candleholders
- Napkin holder
 - Napkins
- Salt and pepper shakers
- _____
- _____
- _____

Home Office

Whether it's a corner of your living room, part of your bedroom, or its own room, you'll sometimes want to get work done.

- **Computer**
- **Desk or table** that's an appropriate typing height
- **Chair** you can sit on for hours with good typing posture
- **Modem**
- **Router** to provide your apartment with Wi-Fi
- **Extension cords**
- **Surge strips**
- **Ethernet cables** (as needed)
- Printer
- Paper and notebooks
- Pens and pencils
- Tape (scotch and packing)
- Scissors
- Filing storage/place to put important papers and documents
- _____
- _____
- _____

Bedroom

Your private space, a calm spot to recharge - and where you can most personalize.

- **Bed**
- **Pillows**
- **Mattress and box spring**
- **Mattress pad**
- **Sheets, pillow cases and comforter**
- **Alarm clock**
- **Dresser**
- **Hangers** (more than you think you need)
- Iron and ironing board
- Lint roller
- Night stand
- Mirror

- Lamp
- Hamper
- Small stereo system
- Trash can
- Curtains
- Artwork
- Jewelry box
- Bookcase
- A fan (particularly if you don't have A/C)
- Humidifier
- _____
- _____
- _____

Bathroom

For cleaning and self-maintenance, this room has many personal effects.

- **Shower curtain** (and rings to hold it up)
- **Shower caddy** (if it's not built into shower)
- **Toothbrush and toothpaste**
- **Toiletries** (bath soap, hand soap, shampoo, lotion, mouthwash, etc)
- **Toilet paper**
- **Toilet plunger**
- **Toilet brush**
- **Towels** (bath and hand)
- **Bath mat**
- Washcloth
- Trash can
- Makeup supplies
- Makeup holder
- Hairdryer
- Hair curler
- Over-the-counter medication (Advil, Pepto-Bismol, etc)
- Air freshener
- Tissues
- Tweezers
- Nail clippers
- _____
- _____
- _____

Miscellaneous - Cleaning Supplies

Cleaning is a continuous process. Most of these go in a closet.

- **Rags**
- **Paper towels**
- **Spray cleaners** (e.g., Windex, Mr. Clean, etc)
- **Laundry supplies** (laundry soap, fabric softener, stain remover)

- Vacuum cleaner
- Small broom and dust pan
- Trash bags
- Scrub pads
- Rubber cleaning gloves
- Large broom
- Bucket and mop
- Tile cleaner (e.g., Soft Scrub)
- Duster
- Watering can (for plants)
- _____
- _____
- _____

Miscellaneous - Safety and Other Necessities

These aren't glamor objects, but you'll be glad you have them.

- **Basic toolbox** (flat- and Phillips-head screwdrivers, a hammer, a box-cutter, pliers, a wrench and a tape measure)
- **Flashlight(s)**
- **Batteries**
- **Emergency kit** (in case of natural disaster)
- **Light bulbs**
- **First aid kit**
- **Carbon monoxide alarm**
- **Fire alarm** (Your landlord is responsible for providing a smoke detector, but you should check to make sure it works)
- **Fire extinguisher** (Your landlord may be required to provide this. Check that it's there - and know how to use it!)
- An electric drill (including drill bits)
- A level
- Nails, screws and picture-hanging hooks and wire
- Window A/C unit (if needed)
- Duct tape
- Masking tape
- Packing tape
- Storage containers
- Matches
- Pet supplies (toys, feeding dishes, food, etc)
- _____
- _____
- _____