

Things You Need For Your First Apartment: The Ultimate Checklist

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Entrance area

- Welcome mat (for outside the door)
- **Small area rug (for just inside the door)**
- Wall hooks for jackets, keys, etc.
- Small table or bench for shoe storage
- Lamp, if there's no other light source by the door
- _____
- _____
- _____

Living room

- **Couch, chairs, or other things to sit on**
- **Coffee table**
- Bookshelves
- Television
- Stand for TV
- Throw pillows for couch/chairs
- Artwork
- **Lamp(s)**
- _____
- _____
- _____

Kitchen

- **Food!**
- **Silverware**
- **Silverware organizer** (drawer insert)
- **Dishes** (e.g. plates, glasses, mugs, bowls, serving platters, etc.)
- **Trash and recycling cans**
- **Pots and pans**
- **Oven mitts**
- **Spatulas, ladles, whisks, etc.**
- Container for countertop storage of spatulas, ladles, whisks, etc.
- Dish towels
- **Dish drying rack**
- **Measuring cups and spoons**

- **Mixing bowls**
- **Bottle opener and corkscrew**
- Plastic containers for food storage (e.g. Tupperware or Gladware)
- Rolls of aluminum foil, wax paper, plastic wrap, and parchment paper
- Paper (or newspaper) to line cupboards and shelves
- Zip-top plastic bags of various sizes
- Cutting boards
- Toaster or toaster oven
- Microwave
- Coffee maker
- Kettle or hotpot
- Ice cube trays
- Blender
- Hand mixer
- **Can opener**
- **Good, sharp knives** (at least one large chef's knife and a small paring knife)
- Serving spoon
- Colander
- Additional free-standing shelves or storage, as needed (e.g. metal shelf units from Target or IKEA)
- **Dish soap and sponges/scrubbers**
- **Trash can**
- Small area rug
- _____
- _____
- _____

Dining area

- **Table and chairs**
- Tablecloth or placemats
- Napkins
- Candles/tealights and candle holders
- Trivets
- _____
- _____
- _____

Bathroom

- **Shower curtain (and rings to hold it up)**
- **Shower caddy**
- **Toothbrush**
- **Toiletries** (e.g. bath soap, hand soap, shampoo, lotion, etc.)
- **Toilet paper**
- Toilet brush

- Toilet plunger
- Bath mat(s)
- Air freshener
- Tissues
- Trash can
- Over-the-door towel hook
- **Towels (bath and hand) and washcloths** (be sure to have extras for any guests who spend the night)
- _____
- _____
- _____

Bedroom

- **Bed!**
- **Pillows**
- **Mattress and box spring**
- **Mattress pad**
- **Sheets and comforter**
- Night stand
- **Lamp**
- **Dresser**
- Hangers (more than you think you need)
- Hamper
- Trash can
- Curtains
- **Alarm clock**
- Desk
- Chair for desk
- _____
- _____
- _____

Miscellaneous

- **Cleaning supplies** (e.g. rags, paper towels, sprays)
- **Laundry soap, fabric softener, stain remover (e.g. Shout) and a jar of quarters for laundry**
- **Trash bags**
- **Vacuum cleaner**
- **Small broom and dustpan**
- **Extension cords**
- Surge strips
- Basic tools, including screwdrivers (flat and Phillips-heads), hammer (and some small nails), duct tape, box-cutter or X-acto knife, duct tape, pliers, wrench, and masking tape

(at the very least, get a Leatherman, which includes basic versions of most of the above-mentioned tools)

- Large plastic bins or other storage
- Pens
- Paper (for grocery lists, doodles, etc.)
- **Flashlight(s)**
- **Batteries of various types, including backups for your flashlight**
- Candle
- Matches
- Tweezers
- Fans
- **Emergency Kit**
- Window air conditioner
- Internet router and associated cords
- **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)
- _____
- _____
- _____