

Unit 1: Renting Accommodation

1. Rental process

a. Check rental sources	Internet websites, rental booklets https://www.apartments.com/ https://www.rentals.com/
b. Select location	Distance to work, schools, shopping, and entertainment; public transportation and safety
c. Select candidate rentals	Rent, size, housing type, utilities, amenities, furnished / unfurnished, parking, washer/dryer (in unit or building), and other conditions
d. Contact rental office or landlord	Availability and when; inquire about undisclosed conditions (e.g. furnished, pets); schedule a showing
e. Check the place	Size, rooms, appliances, parking, neighborhood, etc.
f. Inquire about the rental conditions	Rental duration, security deposit, lease cancellation conditions, etc.
g. Make a decision	Check and compare
h. Sign the contract	Every contract is different-- read the contract. Pay deposit and first-month rent.

2. Tips for renting a place

- a. Security deposit: 2 months, sometimes 1 month
- b. Lease duration: month-to-month, 3 months, 6 months, annual
- c. Lease cancellation: often a lease can be canceled with a penalty (often one-month rent)
- d. Trash pickup is generally included