

## 20 Questions to Ask About Housing

When you are looking at a house or apartment that you might like to live in on your own or with a roommate, the answers to these questions might help you decide if you want to live there.

1. Is the house or apartment in a neighborhood that feels safe and I'm comfortable when I walk around?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
2. Is the house or apartment close to stores, banks, places to eat?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
3. Is the house or apartment close to public transportation such as a bus stop?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
4. Will I be able to get to work or school from here?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
5. Is the house or apartment clean and well maintained inside and out?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
6. Is there good working heat and air conditioning?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
7. Do the bathrooms work well? Are they easy to get to?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
8. Is the kitchen set up so I can use it?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
9. Are there laundry facilities in the house, apartment or apartment building?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
10. Will I have my own telephone line?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No

11. Can I get my own mailbox?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
12. Is there staff on-site or the landlord nearby that I can ask for help if I have a problem?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
13. Are the neighbors friendly and supportive?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
14. Are there things to do at the house or apartment for fun and exercise?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
15. Is the building accessible for me? Is there an entrance I can get in no matter what the weather or my ability to move around?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
16. Can I get into the laundry room, where the garbage goes, the pool or exercise room if they have one?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
17. Is the rent in my price range? Can I afford to live here?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
18. Is there a deadbolt on the lock on the front door?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
19. If there are other people in the house, is there a lock on the bedroom door? Would I have enough privacy?  
☐ Yes      ☐ No
20. Did I see a list of all the extra fees (deposits, cost for pets, cost for parking, etc?)  
☐ Yes      ☐ No

Developed by referencing *My Future My Plan: A Transition Planning Resource for Life After High School*, 2003 State of the Art, Inc.,  
<http://www.ncset.org/publications/mfmp.asp> and *It's My Choice* by William T. Allen,  
[www.mncdd.org](http://www.mncdd.org)