Apartment Hunting Checklist

SECURITY AND SAFETY
☐ Doors have dead bolt locks?
☐ Patio/balcony door lock? Have a security bar?
☐ Does front door have a viewfinder (peephole)?
☐ Exterior doors 1-3/8" metal or solid wood?
☐ Windows open (stay open by themselves), close and lock?
☐ Hallway & outdoor lighting sufficient?

FURNITURE AND APPLIANCES
☐ Are refrigerator and freezer large enough?
☐ Is freezer self-defrosting?
☐ Are all appliances in good working order?
☐ Are blinds or curtains provided for windows?
☐ Is furniture in good condition?
☐ Will apartment needed to be painted?
☐ Will carpet need to be replaced? Cleaned?
☐ Enough light in each room? Need lamps?

STATE OF REPAIR
☐ Doors & windows fit securely in their frames?
☐ Any broken windows?
☐ All windows have screens? Any screens torn?
☐ Any spots on ceiling or walls from water leaks?
☐ Any evidence of mold on walls, floor or ceiling?
☐ Any faucets leak? Pipes under sinks leak?
☐ Does toilet flush properly?
☐ Exhaust fans in bathroom and kitchen?
☐ Any evidence of roaches?
☐ Any light fixture covers broken or missing?
☐ Covers on light switches & electrical outlets?
☐ Electrical outlets grounded (3-prong outlets)?
☐ Properly working smoke detector installed in each bedroom?
☐ Properly working carbon monoxide alarm within 15 feet of bedroom?
☐ If basement, any sign of seepage?

DON’T FORGET TO CHECK
☐ Enough electrical outlets? Phone jacks?
☐ Hallways clean?
☐ Adequate storage space (closets, cabinets)?
☐ Will you have your own meter for every utility for which you must pay (gas, electric, water)?
☐ Will you have your own heat control?
☐ Sufficient hot water for showers? (ask current tenants)
☐ Water pressure adequate (ask current tenants)?
☐ Is the parking lot in good condition? Are any spaces too small or hard to maneuver because of a post or dumpster?
☐ Is the ramp to an underground lot too steep?
☐ Do you remember the apartment number so that when you sign the lease, you will be sure that you will be signing for the exact same apartment that you saw?