



Making Moving Personal(s)

Finding the Perfect Apartment Might Be Just As Hard As Finding Your Soulmate

Santa Monica, Calif., January 21, 2010 – Moving to a new apartment is a hassle for many people, whether it's relocating down the street or across state lines. Between finding a home that suits you, a neighborhood you enjoy and a property that is affordable, it sometimes seems an easier task to find your soulmate than to find the perfect living space. In light of these common frustrations, Rent.com highlights considerations to take note of while searching for your perfect match.

Your Perfect Match

Your living space and environment are among the top attributes that contribute to your overall happiness because most Americans spend a good amount of time in their home. So why not find a property that will truly make you happy day in and day out? Avoid mismatches by following a few simple rules:

- 1) **Stick to your budget:** Create a budget *before* you begin looking at properties. By putting a number on paper and sticking to it, you won't waste time looking at properties that fall outside of your price range. If you fail to do so, you could be wooed by an apartment that you really can't afford – and if this happens, the honeymoon with your new apartment could be over sooner than you think.
- 2) **Be Honest With Yourself:** The key to finding an apartment you love is being honest with yourself about what you aren't able to live *with* and what you simply can't live *without*. Before beginning your search, jot down a list of your top 3 apartment "must-haves." If you've included a doorman building or dishwasher on your list, resist the urge to check out properties that do not offer these features.
- 3) **The One:** Give yourself enough time to find "the one." You won't like every apartment you see, so begin searching well in advance of your move date in order to find the best fit for your lifestyle and budget. If you wait until the last-minute, there's a greater chance that you will settle for a lease that doesn't meet your expectations. Instead, make the effort to research properties in advance, which will allow time to negotiate with the landlord and develop a relationship prior to signing the lease.

Breaking Up Is Hard to Do

Nobody likes ending a relationship, and roommate breakups are no different. Whether you're relocating with a new friend, living with a significant other or moving out of your parents' house, there's always someone who will be left behind. In light of Valentine's Day, consider the below tips for breaking up without breaking hearts:

- 1) **Speak Up:** Let your current roommate know in advance of your plans to move out at the end of the term. This way, your roommate has time to make other arrangements and won't harbor hard feelings about being left in the dark.
- 2) **Continue to Share:** If you announce an upcoming move after you're already found a new place, offer to share the source, such as [Rent.com](https://www.rent.com), that you found helpful in your search. Your roommate will appreciate any insight or tips that you might be able to offer, which will help to ease the parting.
- 3) **Give a Gift:** If you're moving out of your parents' house, consider offering them a small gift to sweeten the moment. A gift card to a home store to help them turn your old bedroom into a game room will let your parents know how much you care and that you'll be back to visit!
- 4) **Remain Friendly:** If a negative relationship with your roommate is your reason for moving out, remember that you are never obligated to divulge future plans, so feel free to use your own discretion. At the end of the day, some relationships simply don't work out!

About Rent.com

[Rent.com](https://www.rent.com) is the nation's #1 Internet listing site (ILS) in the rental housing industry enabling renters to find a residential rental property online using a free robust search tool. Rent.com has the most online traffic and the largest inventory of contracted property listings. As the only national ILS with a pay per lease business model, Rent.com allows property managers to cost-effectively fill their vacancies. Prospective renters can search the site's detailed property listings, including contact information, pricing, photos, floor plans, and virtual tours. With the ability to directly contact property managers, finding the rental housing of your dreams is as easy as 1-2-3.

In addition to providing renters free access to detailed property listings and robust search tools, Rent.com rewards renters with a \$100 prepaid Visa® debit card if they: (1) find their property using the Rent.com website, (2) tell the property owner or manager they found their rental home using Rent.com, and (3) report to Rent.com signing a lease with a property that participates in the \$100 Reward Program. Rent.com is dedicated to giving renters a convenient way to find the perfect place to live.

###