

7 QUESTIONS

To Ask a Live-In Landlord

Living with your landlord can be a different experience. It is important to know the expectations and ground rules before legally committing and signing a lease. Here are 7 questions to consider before choosing a rental with a live-in landlord.

WHAT ARE THE HOUSE RULES?

Make sure to ask the landlord about taking out the trash, drinking policy, quiet hours, kitchen use, use of common areas, music/loud noise, cleaning up after oneself, etc.

DO YOU ALLOW LEASE TERMINATIONS?

Make sure that you are aware of your options in the case of a lease termination and what fees would be applied if you decide to break the lease.

WHAT IS YOUR IDEAL TENANT?

This question will help you determine if you and the landlord would be a good fit for living together. Talk about each other's lifestyles. Are you both morning/night people?

WHAT IS THE GUEST POLICY?

It is wise to discuss expectations about friends coming over and/or overnight guests upfront and ask the landlord to document them in the lease.

WHAT IS THE PARKING SITUATION?

If the place only has one reserved parking spot, you will have to figure out other options for parking.

HOW WILL THE UTILITIES BE SPLIT?

Who will pay what bills? Do you split them down the middle? When do payments need to be made?

HAVE YOU HAD GOOD EXPERIENCES IN REGARD TO LIVING WITH TENANTS?

The landlord may be able to refer you to individuals who have lived with them in the past and asking them questions will give you greater confidence with your decision.