What You Should Buy Before You Move

Think of this section as a condensed version of your first apartment checklist: everything listed here is a must-have. Period. Make sure that you’ve checked off all these items before you move — then, keep everything on this list close by when you move.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bedroom Essentials</th>
<th>Kitchen Essentials</th>
<th>Cleaning Essentials</th>
<th>First-Aid Kit Essentials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mattress</td>
<td>Water glasses</td>
<td>Toilet scrubber</td>
<td>Ace bandages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mattress topper (mattress pad)</td>
<td>Mugs</td>
<td>Toilet bowl cleaning solution</td>
<td>Anti-inflammatory such as Advil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pillows</td>
<td>Plates</td>
<td>Dish/dishwasher soap</td>
<td>Band Aids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheets</td>
<td>Cereal bowl</td>
<td>Sponges</td>
<td>Antibiotic ointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blanket and/or comforter</td>
<td>Utensils</td>
<td>Multi-surface cleaning spray</td>
<td>Gauze pads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing/coat hangers</td>
<td>Frying pan</td>
<td>Paper towels</td>
<td>Antiseptic wipes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Home Toolkit and Essentials | Cleaning Essentials (continued) | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Screwdriver—Phillips head   | Toilet scrubber                  | Toilet bowl cleaning solution                      |
| Screwdriver—Flat head       | Multi-surface cleaning spray     | Dish/dishwasher soap                              |
| Hammer                      | Paper towels                     | Sponges                                           |
| Picture/mirror hanging kit — with various weight capacity hooks and nails | Trash bags                       | Multi-surface cleaning wipes                       |
| Step stool                  | Multi-surface cleaning wipes     | Cleaning wipes                                     |
| Batteries                   | Stainless steel cleaner          | Muscle pain relief ointment                        |
| Power strips                | Laundry detergent                |                                                  |
| Extension cords             | Dryer sheets                     |                                                  |
| Duct tape                   | Stain remover                    |                                                  |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bathroom Essentials</th>
<th>Cleaning Essentials</th>
<th>First-Aid Kit Essentials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shower curtain</td>
<td>Swiffer—with both wet and dry pads</td>
<td>Ace bandages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shower curtain liner</td>
<td>Vacuum</td>
<td>Anti-inflammatory such as Advil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shower curtain hooks</td>
<td>Multi-surface cleaning spray</td>
<td>Band Aids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towels — face, hand and bath</td>
<td>Paper towels</td>
<td>Antibiotic ointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soap</td>
<td>Trash bags</td>
<td>Gauze pads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toilet paper</td>
<td>Multi-surface cleaning wipes</td>
<td>Antiseptic wipes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stainless steel cleaner</td>
<td>Cold medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Laundry detergent</td>
<td>Cough drops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dryer sheets</td>
<td>Cold pack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stain remover</td>
<td>Muscle pain relief ointment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## What You Should Buy After (or before) You Move

### ✔️ Living Space
Whether you’re in a studio or a two-bedroom, you won’t want to forget to cross these items off your first apartment checklist.

- [ ] Comfy couch
- [ ] Coffee table
- [ ] Extra lighting
- [ ] Television and DVD player, cable box, or streaming device
- [ ] Storage solutions (bookshelf, TV cabinet)
- [ ] Side tables
- [ ] Extra seating
- [ ] Window treatments
- [ ] Wall art
- [ ] Picture frames
- [ ] Coffee table books
- [ ] Decorative pillows
- [ ] Throw blanket
- [ ] Houseplants
- [ ] Candles
- [ ] Vases

### ✔️ Bathroom
We’re here to make sure you don’t get so excited about choosing your hand soap scent that you forget to purchase a toilet scrubber! Check that you have everything you need for your first apartment bathroom.

- [ ] Toilet plunger
- [ ] Toilet bowl scrubber
- [ ] Cleaning solution
- [ ] Toilet paper
- [ ] Toilet paper holder
- [ ] Trash can
- [ ] Bath towels
- [ ] Hand towels
- [ ] Face towels
- [ ] Bath mat and bathroom rug
- [ ] Hand soap
- [ ] Lotion
- [ ] Storage for toiletries (plastic drawers, a rolling cart, or an entire cabinet)
- [ ] Candles
- [ ] Potpourri
- [ ] Air freshening spray
- [ ] Countertop storage
- [ ] Small vanity mirror
- [ ] Additional lighting

### ✔️ Bedroom
Here’s everything you need to make your first apartment bedroom a cozy, restful place to fall asleep at night.

- [ ] Bed frame
- [ ] Box spring
- [ ] Closet storage solutions (hanging closet organizer and/or shoe rack)
- [ ] Full-length mirror
- [ ] Window treatments
- [ ] Laundry hamper
- [ ] Trash can
- [ ] Vanity or desk
- [ ] Comfy chair
- [ ] Nightstand
- [ ] Bedside table
- [ ] Reading lamp
- [ ] Alarm clock
- [ ] Decorative clock
- [ ] Decorative pillows
- [ ] Cozy blankets
- [ ] Rug
- [ ] Wall art

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For the kitchen section of our first apartment checklist, we’re going to break down what you need in your new home to “cook like a boss,” host awesome parties, and keep your takeout leftovers secure.

**Kitchen Tools (continued)**
- Parchment paper
- Aluminum foil
- Cling wrap
- Toaster
- Toaster oven
- Hand mixer
- Blender
- Measuring cups/spoons
- Mixing bowls
- Colander
- Spatula
- Whisk
- Mixing spoons
- Bottle opener
- Can opener
- Corkscrew
- Kettle and/or coffee pot

**Miscellaneous kitchen items**
- Silverware organizer
- Dish drying rack
- Paper towel holder
- Plastic or glass food storage containers
- Sandwich bags
- Dish towels
- Oven mitts
- Trash can
- Recycling bin

**Spices**
- Cayenne pepper
- Chili powder
- Ground cumin
- Paprika
- Dried rosemary
- Oregano
- Thyme
- Bay leaves
- Ground cinnamon
- Nutmeg
- Cloves
- Ginger
- Garlic powder or salt
- Onion powder
- Salt
- Pepper

**Pots and pans**
- Large stock pot
- Straight-sided saucepan
- 10-inch frying pan
- Rimmed baking sheet
- Large baking/casserole dish
- Muffin pan

**Dishes**
- Full set of dishes
- Mugs
- Glasses
- Utensils
- Serving bowls of several different sizes
- Serving spoons
- Serving platters
- Pitcher

**Kitchen furniture**
- Kitchen table and chairs and/or barstools

**Ketchup**

**Mustard**

**Granulated sugar**

**Brown sugar**

**Flour**

**Baking powder**

**Baking soda**

**Vanilla extract**

**Cooking oil (vegetable, olive, coconut, etc.)**

**Vinegar (white wine, balsamic, etc.)**

**Soy sauce**

**Teriyaki sauce**

**Ketchup**

**Mustard**
Ready to cross everything you need for your first apartment off the list? Take this checklist with you when you start shopping, and you’ll be all set.