

Housing Related Commonly used terms

Common abbreviations and terms

Some of the common abbreviations and terms used to describe housing in the advertisements are explained below.

(Appl.) Appliances (such as a refrigerator or stove); check to see if these are included: they are expensive to purchase if they are not included in the rent; few places include clothes-washing machines or dryers (except those which are shared with other tenants and require coins)

(Bach. or Studio) Bachelor apartment: small self-contained accommodation suitable for one person; usually only one or two rooms. There is no bedroom--the bed folds down from the wall, or is contained in a sofa.

(bsmt.) Basement Apt; the accommodation is underneath the building, usually in a private home; the apartment is partly below the ground level; such accommodation varies a great deal in quality; they are sometimes dark and damp but relatively inexpensive.

(D.D.) Damage deposit required (also called a security deposit). It will be refunded to you when you leave provided that no damage has been done while you were living there.

(Duplex) A building with two self-contained units having at least one wall in common.

(Leased) A contract that states that accommodation is rented for a specified time and/or under specific conditions.

(Ref. Required) The person renting the accommodation to you (landlord) wants assurance from someone else (usually a previous landlord) that you will be a responsible tenant.

(w.w.) The accommodation comes with wall-to-wall carpeting.