

Finding an Apartment & Where to Start



presented by





Your guide to getting started

It's time to start thinking about your housing for next year! The transition from your dorm hall to off-campus housing may seem like an overwhelming task, but there's no need to stress. This guide will walk you through the beginning phases of your housing search and provide helpful tips for finding the perfect place to call home!

In this guide you will find:

- Three important factors to consider when searching for off-campus housing
- Tips on where, when, and how to look for housing
- How to contact a Tandem Housing Specialist
- Printable housing-related worksheets

Let's begin!

FACTORS TO CONSIDER

Factor 1: Living Arrangement

Think about the living arrangement that best suits your lifestyle and makes you feel right at home. Some questions to ask yourself:

- ▶ What size apartment are you looking for?
- ▶ Do you want your own private bedroom or bathroom?
- ▶ Do you want to be on your own individual lease?
- ▶ Do you need housemate matching services?

Once you have determined your ideal living arrangement, it's time to think about your housing budget.

Factor 2: Determining Your Budget

Determining what is a NEED versus a WANT is very important when considering your off-campus housing. This will help you narrow your search and define exactly what you are looking for. Below is an example of what your list might look like. Use the printable “Housing Related Costs” worksheet to determine your needs and wants and how they fit into your budget.

Needs

- ✓ City Utilities (water, sewage, garbage)
- ✓ Gas & Electricity (PG&E)
- ✓ Furniture
- ✓ Internet
- ✓ Proximity to Shopping
- ✓ Parking or Public Transportation
- ✓ Housemate Matching Services

Wants

- ✓ Resort Style Apartment
- ✓ Private Bathroom
- ✓ Pool/Hot Tub
- ✓ Resident Events
- ✓ Fitness Center
- ✓ Pet Friendly
- ✓ Individual Lease Options

Factor 3: Location & Transportation

Each neighborhood in Davis has its own unique features. Would you like to live next to grocery stores, food, and other retailers? Choose the environment that will best suit your lifestyle and satisfy your transportation needs.



* Communities that offer the Individual Lease Program

- Riding Unitrans (UCD bus line) or your bike is **FREE**
- Unitrans is run by students, for students, and is a GREAT way to get to and from campus quickly and conveniently - check which bus lines run near your favorite apartment complexes!
- Davis is clad with bike trails that take you directly to your classes in just minutes.
- If you plan on driving your car to campus, keep in mind the cost of an on-campus parking permit, an apartment complex parking permit, and gas!

HOUSING TIPS

When & Where to Look

It's never too early to start thinking about your housing for next year! After your holiday break, Winter quarter is the perfect time to begin your housing search and narrow down your options. There are many different resources available to assist you in your housing search. Listed below are a few that we recommend to help you find the top communities you'd like to tour.

Word of Mouth. Your friends and classmates are your best resource! Ask around to get first-hand referrals for your off-campus housing options.

Online. Searching the web is a great way to get useful information with the click of a button. Visit individual property or housing-specific websites. Get a feel for your prospective community with online reviews from sites like Yelp, Google, or Facebook, and follow your favorite communities on Instagram!

UCD Housing Day. Mark your calendars for the annual UCD Housing Day event on campus, hosted by your very own ASUCD. This is a great opportunity to get all of your housing questions answered in one place. Make sure to visit the Tandem Properties tables, featuring our three communities that host the popular Individual Lease Program!

Touring

Once you've completed your research and narrowed down your options, you're ready to begin calling and scheduling appointments to tour each community on your list! Touring is a great way to get a feel for the community's environment and allows you to ask questions in person. To help you schedule your tours and for added tips, use the printable "Touring Guide" worksheet.



We're Here to Help!



If you need additional help, visit our website to contact one of your friendly Tandem Housing Specialists. We are UC Davis students and alumni who have been in your shoes, so we can answer **any** of your housing-related questions!



www.tandemproperties.com

Your Touring Guide

Tips:

- ▶ We recommend touring 2 - 3 communities
- ▶ If you're touring with a group, try to schedule one appointment that works best for everyone
- ▶ Be prepared to sign a lease if you've found the perfect place to call home

What to bring:

- ▶ A photo I.D.
- ▶ A form of payment (check or money order). Some communities may require you to put down a holding or security deposit to secure your space

Important questions to ask:

- ▶ What is included in the rent? (e.g. utilities, internet, etc.)
- ▶ Do you offer an individual lease program?
- ▶ What type of resident services or events do you offer?
- ▶ How do I start the application and leasing process?

Schedule Your Tours Here:

Community Name	Date	Time	Notes

Housing-Related Costs

Remember to ask about...	INCLUDED IN RENT	NEED	WANT
▸ RENT	✓	✓	
▸ WATER, SEWAGE, GARBAGE		✓	
▸ GAS & ELECTRICITY		✓	
▸ INTERNET			
▸ INDIVIDUAL LEASE PROGRAM			
▸ POOL & SPA			
▸ PRIVATE ROOM			
▸ PRIVATE BATHROOM			
▸ STUDY CENTER			
▸ FITNESS CENTER			
▸ HOUSEMATE MATCHING SERVICES			
▸ TRANSPORTATION			
▸ PET FRIENDLY			
▸ OTHER _____			
▸ OTHER _____			
▸ OTHER _____			
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