



# Tips for New Renters

Finding a rental unit can be a difficult task, especially since there aren't a lot of rental units available and there are many tenants looking for a place to live.

Since we receive at least 20 calls a day from potential renters, here are a few tips to help you be a cut above the rest.

- **Look presentable**

You would be surprised how many people come into our office in sweats or pajamas expecting that they will be given a rental. Please shower and dress for the day.

- **Be polite**

You would be surprised how many people come into our office and are rude or demand that they be shown places before filling their application out. You don't make a good impression when you are rude. Why would someone want to deal with a rude person in their rental unit when they could have someone who is nice and pleasant to work with?

- **Make eye contact**

Many younger people don't make eye contact with adults. This is usually taken as a sign of disrespect or arrogance. When you are finding a rental, you are entering into a business contract. Treat it as a business deal with a professional approach.

- **Be honest**

Honesty is truly the best policy. We want to hear if you have been evicted, if you have been to court or committed a crime, or even if you have no credit and want to get started. We want to help you but if you lie about something, we will find out about it and wonder if you are lying about something else making your chances of renting through us less likely.

- **Be prepared**

Make sure you bring a sheet of paper with all the contact numbers you will need. We are looking for your previous rental history (even if it is with your parents), your current job situation, and your credit history. Make sure you are able to provide all the information requested. When you leave blanks, it looks like you are hiding something or that you don't care.

After you fill out your application, you will be able to see what is available to rent. Try to take something to write on so you can record information for each rental that interests you. Write down whether it allows pets, how many bedrooms it has, if it has laundry, etc. No one expects you to make a snap decision. **Our leases are year long contracts. Take some time to think it over!**