

What to look for when searching for an apartment?

Take a moment before you decide. A home is not just about square metres and the number of rooms; it's a part of your daily life, your sense of security, and well-being. We'll help you look deeper – how the building is built, what the surroundings are like, and how the home supports your lifestyle.

This simple thought exercise will help you make an informed, well-considered and confident choice.

General impression and building characteristics

- ☐ When was the building constructed?
- ☐ What materials are used in the building's load-bearing structures?
- ☐ What is the building's energy rating?
- ☐ Does the building have solar panels or other energy-efficient solutions?
- ☐ How are the water supply and sewage systems organised in the apartment building?
- ☐ Does the building have video surveillance, an intercom or a security system?

Location and living environment

- ☐ Is the location convenient for your daily routines and movements?
- ☐ How far are your and/or your family members' workplaces, schools, kindergartens, shops, services, and public transport stops?
- ☐ Is there nature nearby and are there safe walking paths?
- ☐ Is the neighbourhood generally pleasant and family-friendly?
- ☐ Are there opportunities for sports and leisure activities in the area (both indoors and outdoors)?

Surroundings of the house and accessibility

- ☐ Is the area surrounding the building tidy, landscaped, and ready?
- ☐ Are there green areas, playgrounds or other opportunities for exercise nearby?
- ☐ Is it convenient for guests to park their car?
- ☐ Is the building easily accessible with a wheelchair or stroller? Is there a lift ?
- ☐ Are the staircases finished to a high standard, and designed to feel comfortable, and pleasant?

Condition of the apartment

- ☐ On which floor is the apartment located?
- ☐ Is the layout logical and functional?
- ☐ Are the interior finishing materials of high quality and to your taste?
- ☐ Can the interior finishing options still be changed?
- ☐ How is the apartment positioned in relation to the movement of the sun?
- ☐ Does the apartment receive enough daylight?
- ☐ What are the views of the apartment?
- ☐ What are the estimated monthly utility costs (in winter and summer)?
- ☐ What is the apartment's ventilation system like?
- ☐ Does the apartment have cooling or the option to install it?
- ☐ Does the apartment have underfloor heating? In which rooms?
- ☐ Are the windows and doors of high quality and in line with your expectations?
- ☐ Are the windows double- or triple-glazed?
- ☐ Are the bathroom walls made of stone or plasterboard?
- ☐ Does the apartment have a balcony, terrace or loggia?
- ☐ How are the electrical and low-voltage systems arranged?
- ☐ How many power sockets are there, and where are they located?

Storage space

- ☐ Does your apartment include a storage space?
- ☐ Is the storage space big enough? Can it hold, for example, an adult's bicycle?
- ☐ Is there lift access to where the storage spaces are?
- ☐ Are there electrical outlets in the storage spaces? If so, how many?

Parking space

- ☐ Does your apartment come with a parking space? How many?
- ☐ Is the parking space located underground, under a canopy or in an open car park?
- ☐ Is there insulation in the entrance to the underground car park?
- ☐ Is there an electric car charger in the parking space, or can one be installed?
- ☐ Are the parking spaces accessible only to residents of your building? Are these spaces separated, for example, by a barrier or door?