

Finding the Right Fit

A Checklist for Comparing Senior Living Communities

We know choosing the right senior living community is a big decision. Here's a checklist to bring with you on tours to keep notes to compare communities.

Community Name: _____

Appearance and Physical Features	Yes	No	Notes
Is the community a place you could imagine calling home?			
Is the community welcoming? Would you be proud to live here?			
Are the community grounds, landscape, and building exterior well maintained and easy to navigate?			
Are there different apartment/cottage floor plans to choose from?			
Is the lighting at the community natural, calming and inviting?			
Is there an apartment home that you could see on your tour?			
Is the community interior well maintained (clean carpeting, comfortable furniture)?			
Are there common areas for residents to entertain and socialize?			
Is the community easy to navigate and accessible to less mobile residents?			
Is parking convenient or will visiting be less convenient due to poor parking spaces?			
How do you feel in the community? Do you feel calm, welcome, & excited about the future?			

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Amenities and Location	Yes	No	Notes
Is the community located in a desirable area with conveniences nearby (grocery stores, pharmacy, public transit, hospital, etc.)?			
Does the community have a unique location that makes it more desirable (near a university, park, beach, etc.)			
Are pets allowed?			
Does the community offer all the amenities you're looking for (linen services, fitness room, etc.)?			
Is the food/dining service to your satisfaction?			
Do residents seem to be engaged in social events and taking advantage of community amenities?			
How does the food taste?			
How often are the menus changed?			
What times are the meals served?			
Do the residents have the opportunity to give feedback on the dining program to ensure their needs and wants are met?			
Does the chef ever create special menus or menu items specific to resident requests?			

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Are there holiday, seasonal, event and specialty menus throughout the year?			
Is there an extra charge for certain amenities? If so, which ones and how much will they charge?			
Do apartments have cable TV?			
Is wireless internet available?			
Are there on-site classes/lectures?			
How does the community keep residents engaged and connected?			
How are family members updated on the resident's wellbeing? Are family members able to play an active role in the resident's community life?			
Are there any safety devices available to residents whenever needed?			
Care Services	Yes	No	Notes
How do the staff members treat each other and residents?			
Do residents seem happy & cared for?			
Was the staff able to answer your questions clearly and sufficiently?			
Was the management team well staffed, experienced, effective, friendly, and personable?			