



Lifestyle Alignment

What is *really* most important to you

Your rent will likely be your biggest bill that you pay each month, so it is important to make sure that the new home you choose aligns with the lifestyle that you want and not just the numbers on the page. No place is perfect, but understanding what is most important to you will help you ensure your renting experience is what you want it to be.

The Lifestyle Fit Triangle

(Pick two – the third might flex)

- ☐ Budget-Friendly
- ☐ Location-Convenient
- ☐ Amenity-Rich

✨ Example: If you're set on walkability and in-unit laundry, your budget might need to flex.

What two are most important to you? → _____ + _____

Lifestyle Fit:

Rank the following from 1 (not important) to 5 (non-negotiable):

- ☐ Pet-friendly community: _____
- ☐ Commute time: _____
- ☐ Walkability: _____
- ☐ Quiet neighbors: _____
- ☐ Parking availability: _____
- ☐ Laundry in-unit or on-site: _____
- ☐ Community amenities (pool, gym, etc.): _____
- ☐ Proximity to friends/family: _____
- ☐ Budget flexibility: _____
- ☐ Safety/crime rates: _____

The “Day in the Life” Test

Ask yourself:

- How will I get to work/school from my new place?
- Where will I walk my dog or go for fresh air?
- Where will I grab coffee, groceries, or takeout?
- Will I be able to host friends comfortably?
- What do I need in order to rest, decompress, and be myself there?

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IDEAL DAY

Write out a quick mental simulation or sketch of your daily routine in your potential new home:



Gut Check

Use these prompts to get yourself in the right mindset before you start shopping...

What makes you feel most at peace when you imagine yourself in your new home?

Are there things you are justifying because the numbers work best?

If your best friend were about to shop with you, what would they say?