

## Finding Housing

**Shared Housing can be a stepping stone to other housing types or a long-term option.**

Below is a list of housing resources — some links direct you to local organizations where housing assistance may be available, other links provide you with immediate housing options (private room rentals, full/vacant apartments). All options are suitable for a shared housing situation.

<b>Your own social networks</b>	Ask friends and family if they know anyone looking for a housemate – use social media to ask co-workers, acquaintances, friends of friends, school friends, etc. Reach out to faith communities to ask if any members have a spare/vacant room or apartment for rent.	
<b>Housing Resource</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Service Locations   Contact Information</b>
<a href="#"><u>2-1-1</u></a>	A free, confidential, 24-hour information and referral service connecting residents with support for health and human services, including housing resources (shelter, housing options, utility assistance, etc.).	99% of the U.S. population has access  Call 2-1-1   <a href="https://www.211.org">https://www.211.org</a>
<a href="#"><u>HUD Housing Assistance</u></a>	If you are experiencing homelessness or are unstably housed at risk of homelessness, contact an organization in your local community for help.	Nationwide <a href="#">Click here</a> to navigate to the website to select your own state and local contacts.
<a href="#"><u>HUD Public Housing Assistance</u></a>	If you need public housing assistance or want information about public housing programs such as <a href="#">Housing Choice Vouchers</a> , contact your local Public Housing Agency ( <a href="#">PHA</a> )	Nationwide <a href="https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/pha/contacts">https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/pha/contacts</a>
<a href="#"><u>National Call Center for Homeless Veterans</u></a>	Veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness—and their family members, friends and supporters—can make the call to or chat online with the <b>National Call Center for Homeless Veterans</b> , where trained counselors are ready to talk confidentially 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.	Nationwide Call 1-877-4AID-VET <a href="https://www.va.gov/homeless/nationalcallcenter.asp">https://www.va.gov/homeless/nationalcallcenter.asp</a>

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<a href="#"><u>Eldercare Locator</u></a>	<p>Local support services, such as Area Agencies on Aging, can assist older adults (60 years of age and over) and their families in locating the services such as senior housing (assisted living, retirement communities, nursing facilities, government-assisted housing).</p>	<p>Nationwide  <a href="https://eldercare.acl.gov/Public/About/Database.aspx">https://eldercare.acl.gov/Public/About/Database.aspx</a></p>
<a href="#"><u>Silvernest</u></a>	<p>Silvernest homeowners post properties on this platform, developed for older renters, matches made for all ages. . Renters create a personal profile so they can be matched with potential housemates. Interested tenants submit inquiries through the website portal based on either listings or housemate matches.</p>	<p>Available in select areas in all 50 states  <a href="https://www.silvernest.com">https://www.silvernest.com</a></p>
<a href="#"><u>National Shared Housing Resource Center (NSHRC)</u></a>	<p>NSHRC is a network of independent non-profit home sharing programs. Some programs target specific populations but most focus on matching older adults with younger homesharers. You rent a room from the owner..</p>	<p>Nationwide            View home sharing programs by state:  <a href="https://nationalsharedhousing.org/program-directory/">https://nationalsharedhousing.org/program-directory/</a></p>
<a href="#"><u>PadSplit</u></a>	<p>For a fixed weekly payment, you get a private, furnished room, utilities, internet access, and laundry facilities. The rooms are hosted by property owners. PadSplit manages all the paperwork, such as payment processing and background checks. One-month minimum stay, but after that you can stay for as long as you want.</p>	<p>Select cities in Arizona, California, Colorado, Washington DC, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, and Virginia  <a href="https://www.padsplit.com">https://www.padsplit.com</a></p>
<a href="#"><u>Roomster</u></a>	<p>You can easily search by city, zip code, or address when looking for a roommate. The platform also allows users to connect their social media profiles from sites including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn to create a more clear vetting process.</p>	<p>Nationwide  <a href="https://www.roomster.com/">https://www.roomster.com/</a></p>
<a href="#"><u>Listings Project</u></a>	<p>Listings Project is a community offering free and carefully vetted access to job and housing opportunities.</p>	<p>43 U.S. States  <a href="https://www.listingsproject.com">https://www.listingsproject.com</a></p>

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<a href="#"><u>SpareRoom</u></a>	<p>A website that helps connect those looking for a spare room with others that are looking to rent a room.</p>	<p>Nationwide  <a href="https://www.spareroom.com/roommates">https://www.spareroom.com/roommates</a></p>
<p><a href="#"><u>Craigslist</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Facebook Marketplace</u></a></p>	<p>On Craigslist, you can search through a number of categories including “housing wanted”, “rooms / shared”, and “rooms wanted” to see which options are available near you. Similarly, Facebook Marketplace has the potential to offer some great rentals.</p>	<p><a href="https://craigslist.org">https://craigslist.org</a>            Always put safety first. Read below for <b>How to avoid rental scams</b>.  <a href="https://www.facebook.com/marketplace/">https://www.facebook.com/marketplace/</a></p>
<p><a href="#"><u>Diggz</u></a></p>	<p>Diggz matches you with potential housemates who align with your location and lifestyle preferences. You can either use the “find a roommate” option or you can list a room.</p>	<p>Available in major U.S. metropolitan areas   <a href="https://www.diggz.co/">https://www.diggz.co/</a></p>
<p><a href="#"><u>Roommates</u></a></p>	<p>Launched in 2021, Roommates allows you to set up a profile and search for potential roommates + room rentals and also offers ways for people to verify their identity for your safety. You can get specific with what you’re looking for and then chat directly through the platform before exchanging any personal details.</p>	<p>Nationwide   <a href="https://www.roommates.com/">https://www.roommates.com/</a></p>
<p><a href="#"><u>Roomies</u></a></p>	<p>Roomies allows you to either list a room or find a room. You specify your budget, gender (male, female, or other), and your situation (renting a room for yourself, as a couple, etc).</p>	<p>Nationwide   <a href="https://www.roomies.com/">https://www.roomies.com/</a></p>
<p><a href="#"><u>Kangaroom</u></a></p>	<p>Kangaroom claims to be the world’s largest source of spare rooms and roommates – it’s free to list rooms and free to communicate.</p>	<p>International   <a href="https://kangaroom.com/">https://kangaroom.com/</a></p>
<p><a href="#"><u>Roomi</u></a></p>	<p>Browse Roomi's roommate/flatmate finder to find monthly rentals, sublets and spare rooms available to rent from verified roommates/flatmates.</p>	<p>200 cities worldwide   <a href="https://roomiapp.com">https://roomiapp.com</a></p>

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### How to Avoid Rental Scams

In your search for housing, it is important for you to protect yourself from rental scams. If it sounds or looks to be too good to be true, it may be a fake listing. Fake listings are designed to pull you in to provide personal information and payment early on in the process. Below are some steps you can take to avoid rental scams:

<p>→ <b>Always verify the owner</b></p>	<p>Use websites to <b>look up public records for the property</b>; go to view the property to see if it is what it says it is.</p>
<p>→ <b>Never submit a rent application before you view the property</b></p>	<p>Scammers are trying to get Social Security and bank account #'s. Make sure you view the apartment or <b>home</b> and verify the owner <i>before</i> filling a rental application.</p>
<p>→ <b>Be cautious, safety first.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Watch out for vague listing details</li><li>● Be alert if the landlord does not want to show you the place first.</li><li>● Be cautious if they are "out of the country".</li><li>● Do not get hurried if they want you to sign or pay right away.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Don't give personal information over email</b></li></ul>	<p>Scammers <b>try to get your money</b> by asking for personal information (by email). Always verify it is a real landlord and apartment before responding.</p>
<p>→ <b>Beware of the "middleman" scam</b></p>	<p>A scammer <b>could pretend to be managing a property</b> for the owner and claim the owner is out of the country and attempt to collect rent, a security deposit, or other fees. Never wire money.</p>