

The La Trobe University Student Union (LTSU) is the peak representative body for La Trobe students at the Melbourne and Bundoora campuses.

Our purpose is to advance the education of students by:

**ENHANCING**

the learning experience of students while at the University.

**SUPPORTING**

and co-ordinating the activities of students.

**PROMOTING**

the interests and welfare of students.

**REPRESENTING**

students within and outside the University.

**PROVIDING**

amenities and services for students, other members of the University community and the public.



Find out more on the LTSU website



KNOW YOUR HOUSING RIGHTS

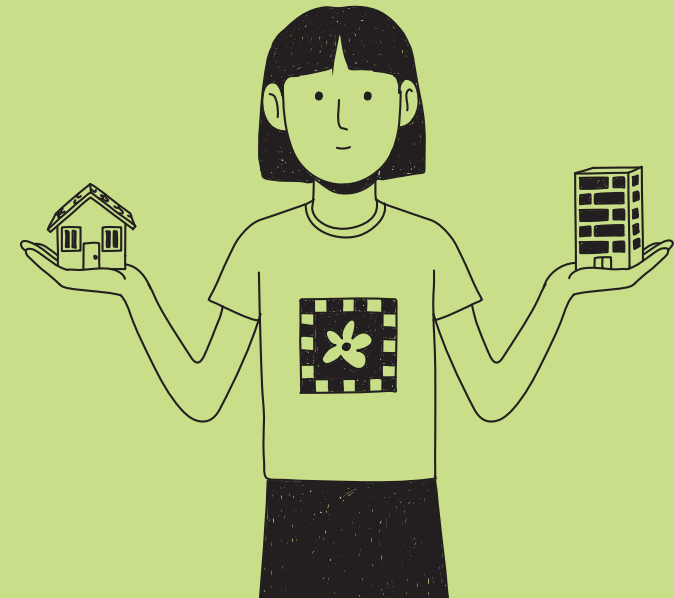
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[ltsu.advocacy@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:ltsu.advocacy@latrobe.edu.au)  
(03) 9479 2469



KNOW YOUR HOUSING RIGHTS

# KNOW YOUR HOUSING RIGHTS

A quick guide to the do's and don'ts of private rentals.



# RENTAL MINIMUM STANDARDS



There are a number of minimum standards and requirements for renting.

Your rental provider or landlord must provide:

- Locks on all external doors and windows
- Vermin proof council bins (large outside bins that rats, mice or other pests can't get into)
- Bathroom: basin, bath or shower, working toilet and hot and cold water
- Kitchen: food prep and cooking area, sink with hot and cold water, and stovetop with at least two burners
- Heating: there must be a fixed heater in the main living area (normally the living room)
- Window coverings (curtains or blinds) in the bedrooms and living areas
- Keys for each person on the lease
- Gas and electrical safety checks should be carried out every two years
- The property must be structurally sound and free from mould and damp



For a full list of rental minimum standards see [consumer.vic.gov.au](http://consumer.vic.gov.au)

## DO'S

Include as much detail as possible in your rental application, including info about your income or a parental guarantor.

Always go to property inspections.

Complete your condition report carefully and take photos of any signs of wear or faults.

Put requests (like repairs) in writing.

Discuss how you're going to split expenses (like bills and shared items) with housemates up front.

Make sure you're added to the lease if you're moving into an existing share house.

## DON'TS

Look in just one place for rentals. Join Facebook groups like Fairyfloss or Queer Housing Melbourne, look on Domain or realestate.com.au and check flatmatefinders.com.au and flatmates.com.au.

Make changes to the property without permission from your landlord or property manager. Search for a full list of changes you can and can't make.

Break your lease where possible.

Pay for repairs yourself. Find out about the requirements for urgent and non-urgent repairs.

Be a bad housemate! Don't eat other people's food or leave shared spaces in a mess.