

## **What You Need For Your First Apartment**

You've finally done it. You moved out and got your own place, but now what? Now it's time to start gathering everything you are going to need to live life in your new apartment. If you have a generous family, you may find that many people will be willing to donate to your cause and help you get started off on the right foot. There are a few key essential requirements that you are going to need and then you can start picking up smaller items, as you need them.

The first and most important thing you are going to require is a mattress and bed. You might be able to make it a few nights, but you are definitely going to need one. At the very minimum, a mattress on the bed is going to do. The size of bed you get is up to you but you are probably going to want at least a full size or queen bed. If you don't have that in your budget, you may have to go with a twin. You may also need to measure the room to see what size bed you can fit in the room. You will also need sheets to fit, a mattress pad, blankets and some pillows, of course.

Trashcans are a necessity. You will probably need at least three of them. You definitely need one in the kitchen, the bathroom and your bedroom. You underestimate how much trash you have when you can't throw it away.

Not all apartments will come with a shower curtain, so you may need one of those as well. Shower curtains come in a wide variety of styles and designs. Some are rather cheap and will work great until you find one that you really like. Don't forget the shower rings as well.

Curtains and blinds are also a necessity. You don't want people to be able to see into your apartment. Blinds and curtains provide a layer of privacy that we all take for granted. You will need to measure your windows for blinds and curtains and you will need to be prepared to spend a little bit of money on them, as they can be somewhat expensive.

If you can't round up a dresser, you still have several options for storing your clothes. One is to hang everything up and then use decorative baskets or bins to store your socks, underwear and things that don't hang. You can also get plastic stackable drawers and there are shelves that hang in closets that can be purchased.

Dinnerware, cups and utensils are essential if you are going to eat. It is cheaper to eat at home, and healthier, so you will need utensils and pots and pans for cooking.

A fan is just a necessity. Many people have become accustomed to sleeping with a fan on for noise and to block out the noise from traffic and neighbors. In the summer it will keep you cool and in the winter they will circulate the heat to keep you warm.

A couch or futon is also a huge necessity. Not only do you need a place to sit and watch television, but you are going to need a place for your company to sit as well.