

Renter's Healthy Home Checklist

More people injure themselves at home than anywhere else. If you're looking to rent, use this checklist to identify any potential hazards. If you have any concerns, you can talk to the landlord about getting them fixed.

- Safe access to the front door - well structured steps, paths and decks, visibility strips (to highlight the edge of steps), handrails on stairs, good lighting, and free from moss or other slippery surfaces.
- Good security locks on all the doors.
- Windows can be opened and have security latches - so you can easily ventilate the house and ensure your personal safety.
- Check for the smell of damp or signs of mould – these can indicate poor insulation, which is bad for your health, and makes the house expensive to heat.
- Good ventilation or extractor fans in the kitchen, bathroom and laundry areas.
- Floor surfaces that won't be slippery if wet. You may need a non-slip mat, and a shampoo/soap shelf in the shower so it doesn't make the shower floor slippery.
- Water temperature set at 55°C at the tap to avoid serious burns.
- Enough power outlets in the rooms and switches in good repair – so you don't have to have cords running across walkways.
- Lights by the beds - so you don't have to walk around in the dark.
- Stairs with good lighting, handrails and no ripped covering on the stairs. Can a stair gate be installed if there are children?
- Well maintained floors, free of tripping hazards, like damaged lino, rips or frayed carpet.
- Smoke alarms installed and batteries recently tested.
- Safety glass installed in glass doors. Putting stickers on doors makes it easier for people to see and avoid walking into.

This checklist has been prepared by ACC, and mainly includes injury-related hazards. These websites also have some great information to consider when choosing somewhere to rent.

PERSONAL SAFETY
www.police.govt.nz/advice/personal-community/home-safe

CHILD SAFETY
www.safekids.org.nz

FIRE SAFETY
www.fire.org.nz/fire-safety

HEALTHY HOMES
www.energywise.govt.nz/node/9179

CIVIL DEFENCE
www.getthru.govt.nz

RENTAL INFORMATION
www.dbh.govt.nz/tenants-index

Moving house can be stressful, so take time to plan your move.

Be careful when carrying and lifting big and heavy items. It's worth a few extra trips to lighten the load, rather than the weeks or months recovering from an injury!