

Retirement Living

Resident Checklist

Life in a retirement home can offer many new experiences. If you or someone you love has started to think it is time for a change, we invite you to use the Retirement Living - Resident Checklist to help guide your decision.

NAME OF HOME _____

Impressions of the Building

	Yes	No	Priority for me?
Is the building easy to get to?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the building accessible to highways?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there public transit nearby?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there wheeltrans service available through the local municipality?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Does the building have curb appeal?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the building in a safe area?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the location convenient to my family members, doctor, dentist, shops and entertainment?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are there medical facilities reasonably close by?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there a garden, walking path or other outside features?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is it a nice, clean, up-to-date building?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the building new? What year was the building built in?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Does the air smell fresh and free of unpleasant odours?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there lots of natural lighting and pleasant artificial lighting?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the noise level appropriate?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there security in place? Type of security? _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there a fire safety system? How often are drills? ____ x per month	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are there private mailboxes?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are there the common areas that would interest me? These might include a dining room, hair salon, chapel, theatre, games room, craft room, fitness area and more.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are there places in the building where people can visit privately?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How many elevators are in the building?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Was it a busy, bustling atmosphere or a more quiet, sedate ambiance?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Residents

	Yes	No	Priority for me?
Do the residents seem happy?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Do they appear to be well groomed and dressed appropriately?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Do they chat to each other?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Do they seem fairly active?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Do the residents seem involved in the life of the residence?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are the residents friendly toward me?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Do the residents' family members visit often?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are families a big part of resident life?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Did the person touring me introduce me to several residents?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Financial

	Yes	No	Priority for me?
What is the daily or monthly charge? \$ _____			
What is included in my rate?			
What are the extra services available at a fee?			
Is there an entry fee? and is it refundable? \$ _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the entry fee refundable?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Will I get advance notice if costs go up?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What are the different financial packages?			
How much notice would I have to give if I had to move?			
How often do they raise the rates?			
How much have rates gone up in the past couple of years?			
How will I be billed?			

Services

	Yes	No	Priority for me?
Is there a receptionist on duty?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What are the hours of front desk reception? _____ am - _____ pm			
How would I enter the building when no one is there?			
Are there hospitality services such as housekeeping, laundry service and a concierge available?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What is included and what is extra?			
Can I do my own laundry if I wish?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Where are the laundry facilities?			
Is there a charge?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there a service that checks on me in my room in case of a problem?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there a hair salon or other aesthetic services on site?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there a shuttle bus for local outings?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How often does it run?			
Are there any shops in the building?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there a General Grocery Store in the building?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there a Gift shop?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are religious services available?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How often?			
What denominations?			
Which services cost extra? How much extra? \$ _____			
How much notice will I get if rates go up?			
How can I do my banking?			
Is there an ATM on site?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Did I receive a copy of the monthly recreation calendar?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Does it contain a variety of physical, recreational, educational and intellectual programs that I would enjoy?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Food

	Yes	No	Priority for me?
How are meals served?			
How many meals are included each day?			
Do I have the option of “opting out” of any meals?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How often do menus change?			
What if I want larger or smaller portions?			
What training does the chef have?			
Are there special dinners and mealtime events?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Can I get special meals tailored to my health or other needs?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there room service?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is room services included or is there a fee?			
Is there a 24 hour snack area so that I can get food during the night?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there a registered dietician on staff?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Do residents contribute to meals or meal preparation in any way?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Can my family and friends come to eat with me?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there a private dining area?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are there meals from my culture available?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How often are there meals from my culture? Can I have input?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there a bar?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the residence licensed?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is wine or beer served with meals? How often?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is seating in the dining room assigned or are we free to sit wherever we wish?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Suites

	Yes	No	Priority for me?
What types of suites are available? <input type="checkbox"/> Studio? <input type="checkbox"/> One-bedroom? <input type="checkbox"/> Two-bedroom?			
What suites sizes are available?			
What are the suite finishes?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Do the suite finishes appeal to me?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the suite designed with a seniors' needs in mind?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there individually controlled heat and air-conditioning?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there sufficient closet space?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are there one or two bathrooms? <input type="checkbox"/> One Bathroom <input type="checkbox"/> Two Bathrooms			
Does each bathroom have a tub or shower? <input type="checkbox"/> Tub <input type="checkbox"/> Shower			
Are there grab bars in the bathroom?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What if I want to change to a different suite? How is that arranged?			
Are there kitchens or kitchenettes in the suites?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What appliances are included?			
Can I make your own meals in the suite?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What small appliances are acceptable for use in the suite?			
Where can I buy food for my kitchen?			
How much furniture will I require?			
How much privacy will I have in my suite?			
Is there a sitting room or living room? <input type="checkbox"/> Sitting Area <input type="checkbox"/> Living Room			
Is there adequate natural and artificial light?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Can I put phone or cable TV in my suite?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the cost included?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the suite internet-ready?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How can I keep my belongings secure <input type="checkbox"/> Locked drawers <input type="checkbox"/> Safe			
Can I have alcohol in my suite?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Can I smoke in my suite?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there an emergency communications system in my suite? What type?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Health, Medical and Fitness

	Yes	No	Priority for me?
What care services are provided in the basic service package?			
What care services are extra?			
Are care services provided throughout the building or is there a designated area?			
What medical conditions does the residence accept?			
What happens if my health deteriorates? Would I have to move?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Does the residence accept walkers, scooters, and wheelchairs?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are residents with oxygen accepted? Who manages the oxygen?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Does the residence accept people with dementias and other cognitive impairments?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there a secure area?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Must I pass a health evaluation to be accepted into residence and what does it entail?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there a doctor on site?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Does he/she have an office there or does he/she see residents in their suites?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How is medical treatment given?			
Can my doctor visit me here?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Does a visiting lab come to the residence?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What other medical professionals are on site?			
Who responds to my suite if I activate the emergency communications system?			
Are there short-term respite services available if I experience a short illness?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there a strong emphasis on health and wellness?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are personal trainers available who specialize in older adult fitness?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What kinds of exercise classes are available? How often?			
Is there a fitness area with equipment? What are the rules governing its use?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there a pool? What are the rules governing its use?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there a walking program?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other

	Yes	No	Priority for me?
Can family members stay overnight?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Can I have a pet?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the residence licensed by Retirement Home Regulatory Authority (RHRA)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the residence a member of the Ontario Retirement Communities Association (ORCA)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What academic and non-academic classes are available on and off-site?			
Are there volunteer opportunities available, either at the residence or organized in the community?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Does the residence participate in events in the wider community?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Do I have to label all my clothing?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What entertainment does the building have? How often?			
Can residents ask for different entertainment?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is there a resident's council that I can join?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are there off site events?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Comments
