Hidden Costs of Your First Apartment Nobody Mentions

The rent in the listing is not what you will pay in month one. Add these 12 costs to your budget before you say yes.

1. **Application fee** ☐
   Often charged per adult, and usually not refunded.
2. **Security deposit** ☐
   Often one month of rent, sometimes more.
3. **First and last month's rent** ☐
   Some landlords want both before you get the keys.
4. **Administrative or move-in fee** ☐
   A one-time fee that isn't always advertised.
5. **Pet deposit and monthly pet rent** ☐
   Added on top of the rent.
6. **Parking** ☐
   Can be a monthly charge, even for one car.
7. **Utility deposits and setup fees** ☐
   Electric, gas and internet companies may ask for one.
8. **Internet installation and equipment** ☐
   Plan for an install fee or a modem you buy yourself.
9. **Renters insurance** ☐
   A small monthly cost, but many leases require it.
10. **Moving costs** ☐
    A truck, movers or helpers, and boxes.
11. **Furniture and basics** ☐
    Bed, sheets, curtains, cookware and cleaning supplies.
12. **Building or amenity fees** ☐
    Trash, pest control, package room or gym fees.