Move-In Photos to Take on Day One (Get Your Deposit Back)

Take these photos before you unpack a single box. Dated pictures are the best proof of how the place looked on day one.

1. **A wide shot of every room** ☐
   Stand in a corner so the whole room is in the frame.
2. **Walls** ☐
   Scuffs, holes, dents and paint chips, with a close-up of each.
3. **Floors** ☐
   Scratches, stains and loose or damaged boards or tiles.
4. **Ceilings** ☐
   Any stains, cracks or peeling paint.
5. **Windows and locks** ☐
   Cracks in glass, screens, blinds and every lock.
6. **Doors and hinges** ☐
   Check closets, entry door and any damage near the handle.
7. **Closets** ☐
   Shelves, rods and the floor of each one.
8. **Kitchen counters and cabinets** ☐
   Chips, burns and doors that don't close.
9. **Appliances, inside and out** ☐
   Open the fridge, oven and dishwasher and photograph the inside.
10. **Bathroom** ☐
    Grout, tub, tile, toilet and any rust or mildew.
11. **Sinks and faucets** ☐
    Look underneath for leaks or water marks.
12. **Outlets and light switches** ☐
    Cracked plates or anything that doesn't work.

13 **Smoke and CO alarms** ☐
Photograph them and test them.

14 **Meter readings** ☐
Electric, gas and water meters, with the date visible.

15 **Keys, fobs and remotes** ☐
Photograph everything you were given.

Email the photos to yourself and to your landlord the same day, so the date is on record.