

A RETIREMENT HOME CHECKLIST

Whether it's you are a first time home buyer or a well-oiled machine, choosing a new home takes time, research, visiting and a good feeling. As an older adult, what make matters more complex is the consideration of the varying level of care that is provided/needed. Retirement residence offer both; comfortable accommodations, basic services, and a variety of support and care that can be provided.

Visiting and identifying the retirement residence that you prefer and communicating to your family allows you to have a plan in place. Whether it is a planned move or a crisis, you have controlled your destiny.

As you are visiting retirement residences knowing what to ask can be overwhelming. You don't know what you don't know. The checklist below will help you get started and open the discussion up.

20 Questions: A Retirement-Home Checklist

	RESIDENCE NAME	
	Yes/No	Comments
1. Does the building look well maintained?		
2. Does it look clean? (Try to look at the stairwells and kitchen)		
3. Are the grounds well-kept?		
4. Are the staff on duty around the clock?		
5. Are the staff friendly, available, respectful of tenants and efficient?		
6. Do the residents look well cared for? Do they seem happy?		
7. Is there a community feel to the place? What's the atmosphere like?		
8. Does your background fit with the other residents?		
9. Do the activities look appealing to you?		
10. Does the menu appeal to you? (Ask to have a meal)		
11. Will they modify the diet to your needs?		
12. Are the suites suitable size for you?		
13. Are there assistive devices in the bathroom?		
14. Can the units Temperature be controlled?		
15. Are there emergency call bells in each suite? Do residents wear personal emergency- responsive devices?		
16. if your health declines, does the home provide additional care packages at an affordable price?		
17. Is there an assisted living area? A dementia-care area?		
18. Are amenities or the other options included in the rent? What are they?		
19. Do rents tend to increase? How often and by how much?		
20. How are complaints handled?		