

# Tucked Nook

tuckednook.com · Renter-friendly small-space decor

---

## The First Apartment Checklist

Room by room, here is everything a renter needs to set up a first apartment. Work top to bottom as a shopping order: sleep, eat, and clean first, comfort and style later. Tick each box as you go.

### Kitchen

- Cookware set: one small pot, one larger pot, a non-stick skillet
- One good chef's knife and a cutting board
- Dishes, bowls, and mugs (buy for 2 to 4 people)
- Utensils: spatula, spoon, can opener, peeler, measuring cups
- Food storage containers (glass lasts longest)
- Dish soap, sponge, drying rack, dish towels
- Over-the-door pantry organizer (no drilling)
- Adhesive or magnetic spice rack

### Bathroom

- Shower curtain, liner, and rings
- Bath towels, hand towels, and a bath mat
- Bath caddy or shower shelf
- Toilet brush, plunger, and trash can
- Basic first-aid kit
- Tension caddy or over-the-toilet shelf (no holes)
- Command hooks and adhesive organizers

### Bedroom

- Mattress (the one item to buy new)
- Bed frame, ideally with storage drawers
- Sheets, pillow or two, comforter or duvet, plus one spare sheet set
- Blackout curtains on a tension rod (no drilling)
- Nightstand and a lamp
- Storage ottoman or under-bed bins
- Stick-on or plug-in wall sconces

### Living room

- Somewhere to sit: apartment-size sofa, loveseat, or futon
- Coffee table or a storage ottoman

# Tucked Nook

tuckednook.com · Renter-friendly small-space decor

---

- Floor lamp or plug-in wall sconces (no wiring)
- A rug to warm up cold rental floors

## Cleaning supplies

- All-purpose, dish, and glass cleaner
- Broom and dustpan, or a compact stick vacuum
- Mop and bucket for hard floors
- Trash bags, paper towels, and a plunger
- Laundry basket and detergent

## Tools

- Basic tool set: hammer, screwdrivers, pliers, tape measure, level
- Command strips and adhesive hooks (no nail holes)
- Surge protector and a couple of extension cords
- A drill (optional, but helps with flat-pack furniture)

## Entryway

- Over-the-door hooks or a freestanding coat rack
- Small shoe rack or basket
- Lean-against-the-wall mirror
- A tray or bowl for keys and mail

## Don't forget (the ones people buy in a panic)

- A shower curtain liner
- A trash can for every room, not just the kitchen
- A plunger, before you actually need it
- Light bulbs (rentals often hand you dead ones)
- A can opener
- First-aid kit and a fire extinguisher
- Hand soap, dish soap, and paper towels for day one