

Knowing What to Look For:

Ad Terminology

Common Terms and Short Forms:

Term	Definition
2 piece bathroom or 1/2 bathroom	Bathroom with a sink and toilet
3 piece bathroom or 1/3 bathroom	Bathroom with a sink, toilet, tub or shower
4 piece bathroom or 1/4 bathroom	Bathroom with a sink, toilet, tub and shower
420 friendly/ not friendly	Okay with / not okay with cannabis use
Amenities	Useful locations, like stores, parks, businesses, etc.
Den	A living room, or something similar
Furnished	Furniture included with the space
Inclusive	Cost of utilities included in the rent
Single/Double Occupancy	Number of people sharing the space (e.g. a room)

Short Form	Definition
-A/C	Air Conditioning
-Appl	Appliances
-Appt	Apartment
-Brdm	Bedroom
-Furn	Furnished
-H+H	Heat and Hydro
-Prkg	Parking Space
-SSFC	Sir Sandford Fleming College
-Sq ft	Square Feet
-U/G	Underground
-W/O	Walk-out

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What does “affordable” really mean?

Many housing ads and newspapers use the term “affordable”, but they don’t all mean the same thing. If you’re looking for affordable housing, make sure you find what’s right for you.

- **Definition 1:**
80% or less of “market value” (the amount most apartments of the same type are being rented for).
- **Definition 2:**
Rent that’s equal to or less than 30% of your income.
 - Rent Geared to Income (RGI housing):
Housing where your rent is reduced by local governments to equal 30% or less of your income. There is an application process and waitlist for getting RGI housing,
- **Definition 3:**
Non-profit housing.

What does “inclusive” really mean?

Many ads say that your rent is “inclusive”, or “all-inclusive”. But it may be worth double checking to make sure **all** utilities and expenses are included, rather than just heat and hydro.

Utilities	Other Expenses
-Heat	-Parking Spaces
-Hydro/Electricity	-Cable/TV
-Gas	-Appliances, ex. laundry machines
-Water/Sewer	-Home-Owner Association/ Condo Fees**
-Wi-Fi	