



Quality and legal issues Tenancies and tenancy agreements

Tenancies and tenancy agreements



When you rent a home, you are called a **'tenant'**.



To rent a home, you will normally need to sign a **'tenancy agreement'**.

This is a contract agreed between you and the **landlord**.



A tenancy agreement gives you the right to live in the home if you:



Pay the rent



Look after the home



Keep to tenancy agreement rules

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Tenancy agreements cover the rights and responsibilities of the tenant(s) and the **landlords**.



Tenancy agreements must follow with **housing law**.



Housing law means rules set by the government that landlords, tenants and homeowners must follow.



This applies to all Councils, **housing associations** and private landlords.

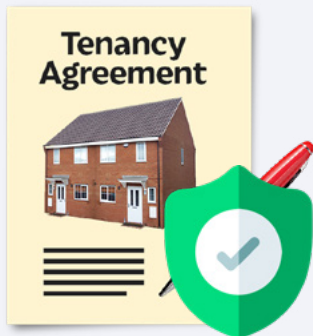
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You must always read the tenancy agreement and look at:



- **When the tenancy will start**



- **Whether you have a tenancy or a licence. A tenancy gives more security.**



- **How you can end the tenancy**

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- What things would be considered breaking the rules of the tenancy?



- What things might lead to eviction or being told to leave the accommodation



- What you get to use, is it the whole house or flat or only part of it?



- When the rent should be paid

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- Tenants' responsibilities such as noise, pets, looking after your home



- Who will/can do repairs and decoration?



For advice on tenancies, it is always best to speak to a specialist advice agency.



You can contact Shelter's UK helpline:

0808 800 4444

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For more information about tenancies and your rights go to:

https://england.shelter.org.uk/get_help



Some landlords have easy read or film versions of the tenancy agreement to help people understand their rights and responsibilities



Progress Housing has examples of easy-read tenancy versions and films.



You can view these at:

www.progressgroup.org.uk/your-tenancy/your-supported-living-tenancy/for-supported-living-tenants

The Housing Guide was a collaboration of LDE, Housing LIN and Ace Anglia.

It was supported by a co-design group of self-advocates and families. The co-design group were Jo, Rachel, Danielle, Gary, Liz, and Kate.

Thanks to everyone who shared stories, gave us feedback, and let us include their work. Please do share feedback and comments to LDE.

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