

Transcript of Securing Housing and Making it a Home Audio

00:00 – 1:08 “When you're ready to apply for a place, you will need identification, contact information for references, proof of income, and banking information. Landlords like to rent to people with reliable credit and tenant histories. He or she may ask for a credit report on you.

To secure a place, you may need to sign an agreement or lease. It is important to know that the agreement does not have to be in writing to be legal and you do not have to move out when the term in your agreement or lease ends. You have the right to stay in your place as a monthly tenant or to renew for another term.

Once you sign your lease or agreement and are ready to move in, give yourself a lot of time to sort and pack your things, and to buy furniture or household items that you need.

When you move in, inspect the unit to ensure everything works. Ask the landlord or property manager to be there so you can point out any issues right away. This will also ensure you don't pay for damage that wasn't caused by you.

For more information on credit checks and references, agreements and leases, preparing to move, and unit inspections, check out the tip sheets and worksheets in this section.”