

Moving In

WHAT DO I DO FIRST?

There are several things you need to take note of when moving into a new rental property. These can include filling in an entry condition report and making sure you submit all the required paperwork.

Renting advice can be found at <https://qutvirtual4.qut.edu.au/group/student/student-life/accommodation-and-living-in-brisbane/accommodation/renting-advice>

The **Residential Tenancies Authority (RTA)** also has a guide for new tenants moving into a new rental property. To find out more, go to: www.rta.qld.gov.au/Renting/Starting-a-tenancy

In addition to the above, you should also do the following:

- **take photos and/or videos of the property when you first move in.** This includes any pre-damaged or broken equipment or materials.
- **we do not recommend cash as a form of payment** for anything but if you have no other options, make sure to obtain a receipt when you make payment. **The receipt should clearly indicate what the money is for.**
- obtain and **keep a copy of all SIGNED rental documents.** This may include your rental contract, entry condition report, and RTA bond lodgement form.

WHAT NEXT?

The next step for most people moving into a new property is to arrange for the utilities to be activated, telephone and internet to be connected and furnishing your new home.

If you have moved into a student accommodation, the telephone and internet might already be provided.

Electricity and/or Gas

If your rental property is in an apartment building or complex, there might be special arrangements/prices already in place for the property. Check with your landlord, real estate agent or onsite building manager for details.

Your first bill will come after approximately 3 months from the date of connection. There is usually a connection/establishment fee for electricity and gas plus a monthly supply charge and usage fee. Check with your chosen supplier for details.

Go to www.energymadeeasy.gov.au where you can compare licenced electricity and gas suppliers in queensland. This will help you save money on your utility bills.

Always check with QUT Accommodation Services if you are unsure about anything related to your tenancy.

<https://qut.studystays.com.au/pages/contact>

PHONE AND INTERNET

Before signing up to a provider, be sure to compare a few options. Some comparative sites are below:

Home Phones

<https://youcompare.com.au/homephone>

Pre-Paid Mobiles

www.whistleout.com.au/MobilePhones/Compare-Prepaid-Mobile-Phone-Plans

If you are planning on using only your **mobile** while studying in Australia, use a pre-paid SIM. This means you will need to add credit to the account every month. This means you will not have to sign any contracts and you cannot use more than the data you have paid for (no unexpected big bills).

If you want a **home phone** as well as internet connection, keep in mind that you may get more savings if you bundle the telephone and internet services together from your provider. The following gives an estimate of phone line installation costs:

No technician visit required:	\$59
Technician visit required: (No cabling work)	\$125
Technician visit required: (Cabling work needed)	\$299

FURNITURE

There are several options when looking for furniture. Think about your budget, accommodation space, length of stay and any other factors when considering what furniture you require. To help spend more wisely, write a list of these factors and use it when you shop.

Second-Hand Furniture & Utensils

- Gumtree www.gumtree.com.au
- Salvos www.salvosstores.com.au
- St Vinnies www.vinnies.org.au/shops

Rented Furniture

- Abel Phone: 1300 655 456
www.abelfurnrentals.com
- Mr Rental Phone: 1800 880 778
www.mrrental.com.au
- Pabs Phone: 1800 20 10 20
www.pabs.com.au

LIVING IN BRISBANE

Being aware of the following and trying to **avoid** them will provide you with a better chance of living in harmony with your neighbours.

- Parking cars on footpaths and walkways. This is illegal and is subject to fines by the police and Brisbane City Council.
- Parking cars against the traffic flow i.e. facing the wrong way or on the wrong side of the road. Remember in Australia, we drive and park on the left side of the road.
- Leaving rubbish bins on the footpath after the rubbish has been collected. These should be wheeled back into your property on the same day of collection.
- Filling rubbish bins (wheelie bins) to the point of overflowing. The operators of rubbish collection will only take away the rubbish that fits in the bin, not other items left on the footpath.
- Placing the incorrect materials in the yellow recycle wheelie bin.
- Removing shopping trolleys from supermarkets and discarding them on the street or footpath after use will attract a council fine.
- Hanging washing over balcony railings. It is better to use clothes lines.