

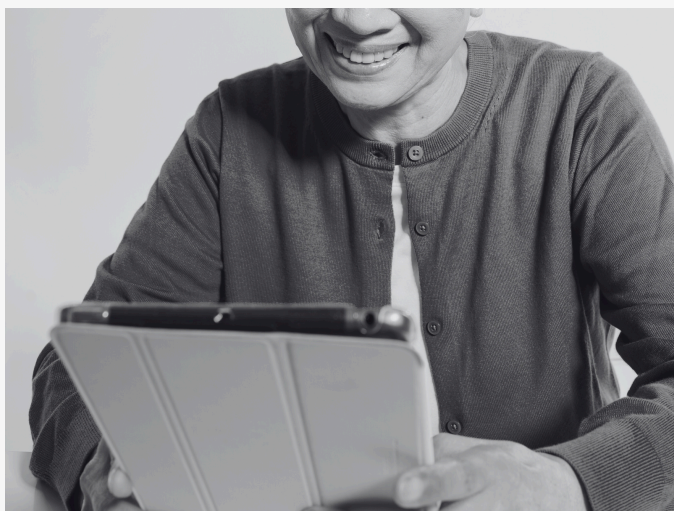
# Apartment Checklist for Foreigners in Germany

## Documents Before Applying

What you should have handy when looking for a house

Document	STATUS
Copy of passport or national ID	<input type="checkbox"/>
Residence permit (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proof of income (e.g. payslips, employment contract)	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCHUFA credit report (optional if you're new to Germany)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bank statements (last 3 months)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mietschuldenfreiheitsbescheinigung (rent debt-free certificate)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bürgschaft (guarantor letter, if required)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal cover letter or introduction (optional but helpful)	<input type="checkbox"/>

# During Apartment Search



- Choose target neighborhoods based on budget and lifestyle
- Search on reliable platforms (WG-Gesucht, ImmoScout24, Facebook Groups, etc.)
- Filter for “Warmmiete” vs “Kaltmiete”
- Clarify what’s included: furniture, internet, utilities
- Avoid listings with upfront payments before viewings
- Schedule in-person or virtual apartment tours
- Take note of room size, lighting, storage, and heating type

## Before Signing the Lease (Mietvertrag)

It's always important before signing anything to know what you are getting into

ITEM	Notes	STATUS
Review lease terms (duration, notice period, deposit, etc.)		<input type="checkbox"/> .
Understand the Nebenkosten (additional monthly costs)		<input type="checkbox"/> .
Ask about responsibility for repairs and maintenance		<input type="checkbox"/> .
Confirm if SCHUFA or guarantor is needed		<input type="checkbox"/> .
Get a signed lease before transferring money		<input type="checkbox"/> .
Check for “Schönheitsreparaturen” or renovation clauses		<input type="checkbox"/> .

## Move-In Day Essentials

- Do a walk-through with landlord
- Fill out the Übergabeprotokoll (hand-over checklist)
- Take photos/videos of the apartment's condition
- Collect keys and confirm number of keys received
- Note down meter readings (gas, water, electricity)

# After moving in



- ☐ Register your address (Anmeldung) at the local Bürgeramt
- ☐ Set up electricity, internet, and other utilities
- ☐ Notify your employer/university of your new address
- ☐ Consider renter's insurance (Hausratversicherung)

**The Leap List** • 

