

Questions to Ask

A RETIREMENT HOME YOU ARE CONSIDERING

Depending on the care you or your loved one needs, there are several questions you should ask a prospective retirement home. While you likely already have many questions about amenities and retirement living costs, the questions below can help start your conversations. The importance of each will depend on your unique situation and needs. These questions may not all be relevant for you but will outline some of the key things to consider and ask.

Use the space provided to keep track of the information for quick reference.

Questions	Home #1:	Home #2:	Home #3:
Licensing Information* Q. Are you licensed by the Retirement Homes Regulatory Authority? Q. When was the home's last inspection, and how did it perform? <small>*For more information on licensing information, search RHRA's database at RetirementHomeDatabase.ca</small>			
Staff Q. Are there staff on-site 24/7? If not, how many staff are available overnight? Q. Is there always a staff member on duty who can administer medical care? Q. Is there a doctor on staff at the home and how often are they on-site?			
Services & Care Q. Do you offer dementia care?* Q. Do you offer medication reminders? Q. If the care needs of a resident change, are there additional services available at this home? Q. How do you accommodate dietary restrictions? Q. What services do you offer? (i.e. parking, shuttle buses, religious services) Q. How do you coordinate with external care providers? <small>*For more information on care services provided, search RHRA's database at RetirementHomeDatabase.ca</small>			

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Questions	Home #1:	Home #2:	Home #3:
<p>Safety</p> <p>Q. How many people live in the building, and how many suites are there?*</p> <p>Q. How does the home ensure both individual resident safety and the security of the building?</p> <p>Q. What security features do rooms have? Are there window locks, a safe, fall detectors, call buttons inside suites and bathrooms, etc.?</p> <p><small>*For more information the size of the home, search RHRA's database at RetirementHomeDatabase.ca</small></p>			
<p>Cost</p> <p>Q. What is the base cost of room and board each month?</p> <p>Q. How much did costs increase last year, and the year before?</p> <p>Q. What will other services cost which I may need in the years ahead?</p> <p>Q. Are utilities included?</p>			
<p>Administrative</p> <p>Q. Is there a waiting list for this home?</p> <p>Q. How quickly can new residents move in from the time they submit their application?</p> <p>Q. Can you walk me through the move-in process?</p> <p>Q. Are medical assessments required prior to admission to the home?</p>			