

Vastaanottokeskuksesta uuteen kotiin

From the reception center to your own home

Residence permit

When you get a residence permit, you can start looking for an apartment. At this stage, you can contact any landlord directly or fill out application forms, which do not require online banking credentials.



Registration of a foreigner - DVV (DPDSA in English)
The staff of the reception center will help you make
an appointment at DVV to be registered in the Finnish
Population Information System.



Kela card and the Finnish Social Security System
The staff of the reception center will guide you on filing a notification of your move to Finland and Kela card application.



TE office

The staff of the reception center will provide guidance on how to register at the TE office.

4. Identity card (from the Police)
When the DVV registration is complete, you can apply for an identity card from the police.



Bank account
When you have been registered in the Population
Information System and you have an identity document
(identity card or passport), you can go to the bank and
open a bank account for yourself and get online banking
credentials.



You can apply for an apartment from all landlords
When you have online banking credentials, you can also apply for apartments that require online banking credentials to apply.





NOTE: There are scammers on the housing market!

Be careful of brokers who offer help

in finding an apartment.



Kun asunto on löytynyt

When you have found a new apartment

Apartment viewing

If you find an interesting apartment advertisement, contact the landlord and visit the apartment. Do not sign the contract without seeing the apartment. NOTE: You won't be able to visit some state-subsidized apartments before signing the contract (for example: city rental apartments, M2, A-Kruunu).



Checking the condition of the apartment

It is important to check the condition of the apartment either with the landlord before moving in or immediately after moving into the apartment. Write down all signs of wear and possible damages and take pictures of them. This way the landlord knows that you have not caused any damages to the apartment.



Signing the lease

Read the lease agreement before signing it and make sure it contains the correct information.



Notification of move

Notify the change of address to the post office (Posti) and DVV (DPDSA). You can submit a notification of move at a service point of Posti or on Posti's website. Also notify the property manager or maintenance company that you have moved into the building.



Kela applications

If you have no income of your own, you need Kela's benefits to pay the rent (housing allowance, basic social assistance, rental security deposit). You can go to Kela's customer service point to fill out an application, or, if you have online banking credentials, you can apply for the benefits online.



Home insurance

 Get a home insurance for your apartment. Generally, landlords require that the tenant has a home insurance.
 Check the lease agreement to see what kind of insurance you need. If you receive basic social assistance, it will cover the insurance bill.



Electricity contract

If electricity is not included in your rent, get an electricity contract for your apartment. If you receive basic social assistance, it will cover the electricity bill.





Muutto toiseen asuntoon

Moving apartments

Termination time

When you want to move out of your apartment, check whether your lease agreement is a fixed-term or valid until further notice. The notice period for a lease that is valid until further notice is always one full calendar month. This means that when you terminate the contract, the lease will end on the last day of the next calendar month.



Preparing to move

Reserve a van in good time and arrange moving services if needed. Pack your things and empty the apartment. Remember to empty the storage as well.



Final cleaning

 Clean the apartment totally thoroughly before moving out.



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Notification of change of address

Notify the change of address to the post office and DVV (DPDSA). You can submit a notification of change of address at a service point of Posti or on the Posti's website. Also notify the property manager or maintenance company that you have moved into the building.



Checking condition of the apartment

It is important to check the condition of the apartment either with the land-lord before moving in or immediately after moving into the apartment. Make a checklist of all signs of wear and possible damages and take pictures of them. This way the landlord knows that you have not caused any damages to the apartment.



Kela applications

If you receive Kela's benefits, notify Kela of your new lease agreement and changes of to your rent.

Notify your insurance company



Signing the lease agreement

Read the lease agreement before signing it and make sure it contains the correct information. Before signing, make sure that the new contract begins when the contract of your previous apartment ends. This way you avoid being homeless or paying rent of two apartments at the same time.



Electricity contract

Home insurance

that you have moved.

 Notify your electricity company that you have moved.



Termination notice

Send a notice of termination to your current landlord for example by e-mail (see point 1).