

Checklist: Things To Consider When Choosing An Assisted Living Facility

Getting Started

An Assisted Living Facility is a residential environment for people who can generally manage their own care but need access to medical assistance and occasional help with daily living activities.

You or your loved one's level of comfort is the most important issue to consider when choosing the right place. Here's what we cover in this checklist to help you make that decision:

- Facility & Accommodations
- Medical Care
- Staff
- Meals
- Services & Activities
- Residents & Facility Culture

Remember

[Create an Everplan](#) to easily and securely update and share your Eldercare preferences with the people you love and trust.

FACILITY

- Does the layout of the facility make it easy for you to get around?
- Do the doorways and walkways accommodate walkers or wheelchairs?
- Are there elevators as an alternative to stairs?
- Does the facility have an outdoor area?
- Do the rooms have features you desire, such as windows, kitchenettes, bathroom handrails, etc.?
- Are the common rooms clean and well maintained?

Additional Questions & Thoughts:

MEDICAL CARE

- How are medications handled? Are residents allowed to self-administer medications? If residents need assistance managing medications, how is this done?
- How are medical emergencies handled?
- How are non-emergency medical situations handled?
- How are visits from physical therapists, occupational therapists, medical specialists, and physicians scheduled?
- What degree of medical care does the facility provide, and at what point would you need to move to another type of care facility?

Additional Questions & Thoughts:

STAFF

- Do people working at the facility seem warm and welcoming?
- Do staff members seem helpful, attentive, and patient?
- Do staff members interact with residents kindly and respectfully? (Example: Do they refer to residents by their names?)
- Do the staff members take pride in their appearance?

Additional Questions & Thoughts:

MEALS

- Do you find the menu appealing?
- If you have religious or medical dietary needs, can the kitchen accommodate you?
- Do you have the option of eating in your room rather than in the dining room?
- Can you bring non-resident guests to dinner?
- Is alcohol served at meals?

Additional Questions & Thoughts:

SERVICES

- Does the facility offer activities or clubs that you're interested in?
- Does the facility provide scheduled transportation or on-demand transportation?
- Does the facility provide housekeeping and laundry services?

Additional Questions & Thoughts:

RESIDENTS & FACILITY CULTURE

- Do current residents seem happy and comfortable?
- Do residents socialize with each other?
- Are you able to talk with residents about their experience at the facility?
- If you are considering sharing a room, do you think you and your roommate will get along? If not, are there other options you might be able to live with?

Additional Questions & Thoughts:

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Create, store, and share all of the information in this document (and so much more) in a personalized Everplan so it's accessible to those who will need it.