



Renting in Berkeley? You have rights!

- Regulated Rents
- Eviction Protections
- Security Deposit Interest
- Habitable Apartment

Your apartment must be safe and habitable.

Every rental unit in California must have:

- ✓ Adequate heating facilities
- ✓ Adequate weather- and waterproofing
- ✓ Hot and cold running water
- ✓ Working plumbing and gas facilities
- ✓ Appropriate door locks
- ✓ Working electric wiring systems
- ✓ No pests or vermin
- ✓ Adequate trash receptacles
- ✓ Smoke detector
- ✓ Floors, stairs and railings in good condition
- ✓ A working phone jack

2011 Interest on Security Deposit was due January 10

Landlords must pay interest on tenants' security deposits annually. The 2011 rates were 0.3% or 0.4% depending on where the deposit is held. If you did not receive interest give us a call!

Want more information?

Call a Rent Board Housing Counselor

510-981-RENT

Or visit our Web site:

www.cityofberkeley.info/rent

Resolving Repair Issues

Taking the four easy steps below will resolve most habitability problems in your apartment:

- 1.** Inform the owner of the problem. If you ask for repairs verbally, follow up with a written request.
- 2.** Give the owner adequate time to respond (at least 30 days for a non-emergency problem).
- 3.** If the owner is not responsive, you can request a housing inspection with Codes and Inspections (510-981-5444). If a violation is found, the inspector will give the owner a certain period of time to fix it.
- 4.** If your unit is covered by the Berkeley Rent Ordinance, you can file a petition for rent reduction at the Rent Board.

Call a Housing Counselor **510-981-RENT**



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Visit Us:
Monday - Friday
9am to 4:45pm
except Wednesdays
Noon to 6:30pm



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