

A Roof Over Your Head

FDIC Money Smart for Young Adults





Objectives

- Identify initial and continuing costs of renting an apartment.
- List questions to ask when determining if you are ready to buy a home.
- List the costs associated with renting and owning.
- Describe the benefits and pitfalls of renting versus owning a home.
- Identify how you can guard against predatory lending practices.

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Renting a Home

Advantages:

- No property maintenance
- Rental contract 1 year or less
- No homeowner associated costs



- You are not the owner
- Your rent might increase
- You might not be able to renew your contract



Owning a Home

- Advantages:
 - Building equity
 - Good investment
 - Tax-deductible mortgage interest
- Disadvantages:
 - Property maintenance and upkeep
 - Not as easy to move as renting





Renting Your Own Space

- Lease: a legal document that protects you and the landlord
- Includes:
 - Conditions
 - Payment and term (e.g., 1 year)
 - Fees
 - Each party's responsibilities



Move In Costs

- A security deposit
- Payment of the first month's rent
- Fees, including credit report fees or pet fees
- Costs of connecting utilities





Monthly Expenses

- Rent
- Fees (storage, pet fees, parking, etc.)
- Utilities
- Renters insurance, which is usually optional



Rent Increases

- Your landlord is not allowed to raise the rent during the term of your lease.
- Some communities have rent-control laws that govern rent increases.
- Look for a rental property that charges less than what your income allows.



Sharing Space: Roommates



- Saves money on the costs of renting
- Consider your roommate's ability to pay his or her portion of the expenses and his or her history of paying bills on time



Activity 1: Can You Afford to Rent?

Complete Activity 1 in your Participant Guide

- Read the scenario
- Compare the rental costs with your estimated income, rental expenses, and living expenses
- Answer the questions



Buying a Home

- Mortgage: a loan provided by a financial institution to buy a house or condo
- Mortgage Costs:
 - Closing costs
 - Taxes and insurance
 - Interest





Down Payment

- An initial payment you make when buying a home to help lower your mortgage costs and monthly mortgage payments
- A percentage of the cost of the home
 - Typically between 3 and 20 percent of the purchase price



Am I Ready to Buy a Home?

- Review the "Am I Ready to Buy a Home" checklist
- Consider the Four Cs:
 - Capacity
 - Capital
 - Character
 - Collateral



Help for Purchasing

- Homebuyer assistance programs generally lower the costs of buying a home by providing:
 - Down payment assistance, or
 - Reduced interest rates
- Look for city and local government programs
 - Special programs provided for teachers
 and service personnel

Activity 2: Is Ramón Ready to Buy?

Complete Activity 2 in your Participant Guide

- Read the scenario
- Answer the questions



What Makes Up a Mortgage Payment?

- Principal
- Interest
- Taxes
- Insurance
- Private Mortgage Insurance (PMI)





Escrow

- Escrow account: a special bank account held by a financial institution for the purpose of paying taxes and insurance
- Lender deposits 1/12 of your estimated annual property tax bill and insurance premium into the account

Activity 3: Can Ramón Afford a Mortgage?

Complete Activity 3 in your Participant Guide

 Determine the maximum monthly mortgage payment recommended for Ramón



Mortgage Options

- Term of mortgage (e.g., 15 or 30 years)
- Fixed or variable interest rate
- Interest-only mortgages
 - Be careful because you generally are not paying down the principal



Fair Housing Act

- Law protects you from discrimination throughout the loan process
- Prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, family status, or handicap status in housing-related transactions.



Settlement

- When the borrower signs the documents and finalizes the sale of the house and any mortgage financing
- Review Closing Disclosure before settlement



Predatory Lending Practices



- Marketing tactics, collection practices, and loan terms that deceive and exploit borrowers
- Collection practices that frighten people



Predatory Mortgage Loan

- Abusive practices include:
 - Excessive fees
 - Abusive prepayment penalties
 - Loan flipping
 - Unnecessary products
 - Asset-based lending
 - Steering and targeting



Activity 4: Predatory Lending Practices

Complete Activity 4 in your Participant Guide

- Read each scenario
- Identify the predatory mortgage lending practices described



Module Summary









Module Summary

Congratulations! You learned about:

- The advantages and disadvantages of renting and buying a home
- The costs associated with renting or buying a home
- The questions to ask yourself when deciding if you are ready to have an apartment or home of your own
- Basic mortgage terms and options
 - **Predatory lending practices**

