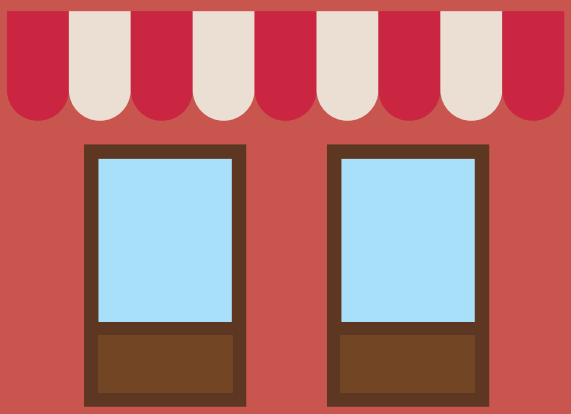
TIPS FOR SAFE OFF-CAMPUS LIVING

- If you have a sliding glass door, place a wood or metal rod in the track so it cannot be opened from the outside.
- Ask who has keys to your apartment. If there is little understanding on this, be wary. Ask if you can use your own lock.
- Whenever you go out, leave a light or a radio on to give the illusion that you are home.
- If someone comes to the door asking to use the telephone, make the call yourself. DO NOT LET THEM IN.
- Drive through the apartment community during the evening to see how well lit the parking lots and community is as a whole. The walkways, entrances, parking areas, elevators, hallways, stairways, laundry rooms, and storage areas should be well lit 24 hours a day.
- Get to know your neighbors. If there are social events for tenants, such as monthly dinners or outdoor barbeques, attend them.
- If you come home and think someone has unlawfully entered your apartment, do NOT go inside. Find a safe place and call for assistance.
- Use laundry areas during high traffic hours.
- Keep your key safe! Do not leave a key under a doormat or flower pot. Burglars know these hiding places!
- Always keep doors locked, even when home.
- Leave outside lights on at night and close curtains to prevent people from looking in.
- Be cautious when returning to your apartment alone. If possible don't let anyone see that you are entering your apartment alone.
- Don't overcrowd balconies and decks in housing communities. Make sure you know the maximum people allowed and do not go over that amount.
- Make sure first floor windows are locked before you sleep or leave.
- Make sure your door has a deadbolt lock and a peephole.
- Even if you are going out for a few moments, lock your door and take the keys with you.



OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING
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