

Stop Renting — Rental Prices Are Continuing to Rise

If you're still renting, now is the time to consider buying a home. Rental prices and fees continue to increase, while homeownership builds equity and long-term stability.

Here are a few **real renter experiences** shared on ApartmentRatings that highlight the frustrations many tenants face:

- “The treadmills never worked, the pool was overcrowded, and the gate stayed broken. Cars were vandalized, and my tires were slashed—all for \$1,650 a month for a two-bedroom.”
- “Our rent kept increasing while service declined. Maintenance workers leaned on my new car during breaks. People hang out in the parking lot drinking beer and playing loud music. Two-bedroom rent reached \$1,900.”
- “Hallways were dirty, trash and stains everywhere, and dogs ran loose. Nobody ever picked up after their pets. Common areas were misused by people who didn't live here, and the gym equipment was always broken. Three bedrooms started at \$2,200.”
- “We had a severe roach problem, and management ignored it. Now there are bedbug issues too. One bedroom apartments start at \$1,225 per month.”

In addition to rising rent, many apartments charge extra fees such as:

- Application Fees: \$75–\$150 per person
- Administrative Fee: \$200 one-time
- Monthly Deposit Fee: \$20–\$40
- Pet Fees: Up to \$800 (\$500 non-refundable)
- Pet Rent: Around \$25 per month, per pet
- Package Lockers & Services: \$20 per month
- Pest Control: \$5 per month
- Valet Trash Services: \$40 per month
- Trash Administrative Fee: \$3 per month
- Garage Parking: \$150 per month
- Covered Parking: \$40 per month
- Guest Parking: \$10 per day
- EV Parking: (varies by property)
- Extra Storage: \$30 to \$50 per month
- Pet/Animal Violation Fees: (varies by violation)
- Payment Services Fee: \$15 per month
- Amenity Fee: \$15 per month
- Mandatory Cable & Internet Fee: \$80 per month
- Smart Technology / Smart Home Fee: \$25 per month
- Pet DNA & Waste Management Fee: \$75 setup fee + \$30 per month
- Washer & Dryer Rental: \$50 per month
- Renter's Insurance: \$20 per month (*covers the owner's property only — not yours*)

With rent costs and housing demand climbing steadily, **owning your own home** may be more affordable than you think. Instead of paying for someone else's investment, start building your own equity and enjoy the comfort, freedom, and stability that come with homeownership.

Now is the perfect time to make the move from renter to homeowner. The deals are out there!