

Residential Lease

This Lease Agreement (“Lease”) is entered into on May 27th, 2026, by and between Thomas Gleason and Tacy Surret (collectively “Landlord”), and Mattia Ippolito (“Tenant”).

Leased Property. The Landlord hereby leases to the Tenant the townhome located at 244 S Duncan St, Baltimore, Maryland 21231 (“Leased Property”) on the premises of the lot known as 223 S Chester St, Baltimore, Maryland, 21231.

Term. This Lease shall be for a fixed term, starting on June 6, 2026 (“Start Date”) and ending on May 31, 2027 (“Termination Date”). The Tenant will be entitled to possession of the Leased Property beginning on the Start Date and shall maintain possession of the Leased Property until the Termination Date unless terminated through approved methods outlined in this Lease or under Maryland Law or Baltimore City Ordinance.

In the event that the Tenant fails to serve written notice on the Landlord in person or by registered mail at least 60 days before the Termination Date stating their intention not to renew the term of this Lease by executing a new lease pursuant to the option herein granted, this Lease shall, at the Landlord’s option, be deemed renewed and converted into a month-to-month lease on the same terms, covenants, and conditions herein contained.

The Landlord hereby does not reserve the right to cancel or terminate this Lease before the Termination Date if the Landlord sells the Leased Property.

Rent. The tenant agrees to pay the Landlord as rent for the use and occupancy of the Leased Property the sum of \$1850.00 due on the first day of each month (“Rent”).

The Rent shall be paid by the following method(s):

Electronic Payment Methods

The following electronic payment methods will be accepted:

Zelle, paid to 443-716-6925

The Rent shall be payable to the Landlord, located at 223 S Chester St, Baltimore, Maryland 21231. The Landlord can be reached by phone at 443-716-6925, or by email at gleasonfolk+property@gmail.com.

Late Fee. If the Landlord has not received any Rent payment within 5 days after the due date, a flat late fee of \$90.00 shall apply.

Default. The Tenant will be in default of this Lease if the Tenant fails to comply with any material provisions of this Lease by which the Tenant is bound. Subject to any governing provisions of law to the contrary, if the Tenant fails to cure any financial obligation (or any other obligation) after written notice of such default is provided by the Landlord to the Tenant, the

Landlord may elect to cure such default and the cost of such action will be added to the Tenant's financial obligation under this Lease. All sums of money or charges required to be paid by the Tenant under this Lease will be additional Rent, whether or not such sums or charges are designated as "additional rent." The rights provided by the Paragraph are cumulative in nature and are in addition to any other rights afforded by law.

Utilities. The landlord shall be responsible for and seek reimbursement on a monthly basis from Tenant for portion of water and sewer utility expense calculated by the following formula: Water and sewer utility expense multiplied by the number of persons residing at Leased Property divided by the sum of the number of persons residing at the remainder of 223 S Chester St, Baltimore, Maryland 21231 and number of persons residing at Leased Property. Any changes to the quantities of persons identified in the formula shall be pursuant to the Occupancy of Leased Property Paragraph. Any extended absences as defined by the Occupancy of Leased Property paragraph that persist for the full duration of a given calendar month shall be considered to have zero persons residing at the Leased Property for the purposes of the above formula for that same calendar month.

In addition to rent, the Tenant shall be responsible to pay one hundred percent (100%) of all remaining monthly utility expenses; including as applicable heat/ac gas, electricity, cable, internet, and security monitoring.

Separate Gas and Electric Meters. The Landlord does provide a separate gas meter and separate electric meter for the Leased Property so that the Tenant's meters measure the electric and gas service to the Leased Property only.

Keys. The Tenant will be given 2 keys to the Leased Property and 1 mailbox key. If the Tenant misplaces a key or does not return all keys following the Termination Date, the Tenant shall be charged \$25.00. The Tenant is not permitted to change any lock or place additional locking devices on any door or window of the Leased Property without the Landlord's written approval. If allowed, the Tenant must provide the Landlord with keys to any changed lock immediately upon installation.

If the Tenant becomes locked out of the Leased Property, the Tenant will be charged \$200.00 to regain entry.

Parking. Parking spaces are to be used for parking properly licensed and operable motor vehicles. Parking spaces shall be kept clean at all times. Vehicles leaking oil, gas, or other motor vehicle fluids shall not be parked on the Leased Property. Mechanical work or storage of inoperable vehicles is not permitted in parking spaces or elsewhere on the Leased Property.

Parking is permitted as follows: the Tenant shall be entitled to use 1 parking space for the parking of motor vehicles. The parking space is identified as the Garage. The right to parking is included in the Rent charged identified in this Lease.

At the Tenant's desire to forfeit access to the parking as described, the Landlord, at the Landlord's sole discretion, may offer to rentback the Garage on a calendar monthly basis at a cost of \$150.00 per month, to be paid to the Tenant as a credit towards the Rent due each month a rentback of the Garage has been applied, reducing the Rent owed on the due date thereof. Any such rentback agreements shall be authorized by a signed addendum to this lease.

Occupancy of Leased Property. Except as stated otherwise in this Paragraph, only those individuals identified in this Lease at the "Tenant" (including their minor children) may reside in the Leased Property. The individuals identified as the "Tenant" shall sign this Lease. It is explicitly understood that this Lease is between the Landlord and each Tenant signatory individually and jointly. If any one signatory defaults, the remaining signatories are collectively responsible for timely Rent payment and all other terms of this Lease. The Tenant may have up to 4 guests on the Leased Property at any one time. A "guest" shall be considered anyone who is invited by the Tenant to be present at the Leased Property, and who is not included in the Lease. The Tenant may not have guests for more than 6 days. No other person shall be permitted to occupy the Leased Property except with prior written approval of the Landlord. Upon receiving written approval for a guest to stay 7 or more days, the person shall thus be classified as a person residing at Leased Property for the purpose of utility calculations but shall in no way be construed to be party to this Lease agreement.

Use of Leased Property. No retail, commercial, or professional use of the Leased Property is allowed unless the Tenant receives prior written consent of the Landlord and such use conforms to applicable zoning laws. In such a case, the Landlord may require the Tenant to obtain liability insurance for the benefit of the Landlord. The Landlord reserves the right to refuse to consent to such use at its sole and absolute discretion. Remote telework is understood to be a residential use.

The Tenant is required to obtain the Landlord's approval in writing before bringing pets onto the Leased Property or allowing pets to reside for a period of 6 days, consecutive or otherwise, in a given month.

The Tenant must ensure that no actions or activities in or around the Leased Property obstruct or interfere with the rights of neighboring occupants, causing them harm or annoyance, or utilize the Leased Property for improper illegal or objectionable purposes. Additionally, the Tenant must prevent or refrain from creating or allowing nuisances on the Leased Property, or engaging in any activities that may lead to increased insurance rates, affect fire insurance coverage, or result in the cancellation of any insurance policies for the Leased Property or its content.

If the Tenant shall leave the Leased Property for an extended absence of 2 weeks or more, they shall notify the Landlord in writing. Such notice will serve as implicit permission for the Landlord to enter the Leased Property for the purpose of maintaining the Leased Property.

Assigning or Subletting. The Tenant may not do any of the following without the Landlord's prior written consent. (1) assign this Lease; (2) sublet all or any part of the Leased Property;(3) allow any person to use the Leased Property other than those uses specified in the Use of Leased Property Paragraph above. Unless the Tenant has obtained the Landlord's prior written consent to assign or sublease, any unapproved assignment or subletting may be deemed invalid by the Landlord, and the Tenant shall continue to remain responsible for all the terms and conditions of this Lease.

Insurance. The Tenant shall maintain standard renters insurance / tenant liability coverage of an amount no less than \$500,000.00.

Smoking. The Leased Property shall be smoke-free. "Smoking" or "to smoke" means and includes inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted smoking equipment for tobacco and/or nicotine. The Tenant will be liable for any damages caused due to the Tenant or the Tenant's guests smoking in the Leased Property.

Common Areas. The Tenant shall have the non-exclusive right to use the alley, rooftop deck, and any other areas designated for the non-exclusive common use of the Tenant and their guests ("Common Areas"). The Tenant shall use the Common Areas in accordance with any rules and regulations the Landlord sets forth, which the Landlord may amend from time to time. The Tenant shall be responsible to pay for the costs to repair any damage to the Common Areas caused by the Tenant and their guests. The Landlord reserves the right to suspend the Tenant's use of the Common Areas in the event that the Tenant defaults this Lease.

Property Maintenance. The Landlord shall have the responsibility to maintain the Leased Property in reasonably good repair at all times and perform all repairs reasonably necessary to satisfy any implied warranty of habitability. Except in emergency, the Tenant is hereby informed that any property maintenance issues, repair requests, or concerns should be reported to the Landlord at gleasonfolk+property@gmail.com. A repair request will be deemed permission for entry into the Leased Property by the Landlord or their agents to perform such maintenance or repairs. The Tenant may not place any unreasonable restrictions upon the Landlord or the Landlord's agents access or entry. The Landlord shall have the expectation that the Leased Property is in a safe and habitable condition upon entry.

The Tenant acknowledges that the Leased Property from time to time may require renovations or repairs to keep them in good condition and repair and that such work may result in temporary loss of use of portions of the Leased Property and may inconvenience the Tenant. The Tenant agrees that any such loss shall not constitute a reduction in housing services or otherwise warrant a reduction in Rent. Further, subject to local law, the Tenant agrees, upon request of the Landlord, to temporarily vacate the Leased Property for a reasonable period, to allow for the fumigation (or other methods) to control wood destroying pests or organisms, or other repairs to the Leased Property. The Tenant agrees to comply with all instructions and requirements

necessary to prepare the Leased Property to accommodate pest control, fumigation, or other work, including bagging or storage of food and medicine and removal of perishables and valuables. The Tenant shall only be entitled to a credit of Rent equal to the per diem Rent for the period of time the Tenant is required to vacate the Leased Property.

The Tenant further agrees to cooperate in any efforts undertaken by the Landlord to rid the Leased Property of pests of any kind. Failure of the Tenant to cooperate may be deemed an obstruction of the free use of the Leased Property so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or the Leased Property thereby constituting a nuisance.

The Tenant shall properly use, operate, and safeguard the Leased Property, including if applicable, any landscaping, furniture furnishings, and appliances, and all mechanical, electrical, gas and plumbing fixtures, and keep them and the Leased Property clean, sanitary, and well ventilated. The Tenant shall be responsible for checking and maintaining all smoke detectors. The Tenant shall immediately notify the Landlord, in writing, of any problem, malfunction, or damage. The Tenant shall be charged for all repairs or replacements caused by the Tenant, pets, or guests of the Tenant, excluding ordinary wear and tear. The Tenant shall be charged for all damage to the Leased Property as a result of failure to report a problem in a timely manner. The Tenant shall be charged for repair of drain blockages or stoppages, unless caused by defective plumbing parts or tree roots invading sewer lines.

Pets. No pets, dogs, cats, birds, fish, or other animals shall be allowed on the Leased Property, even temporary or with a visiting guest without prior written consent from the Landlord. As required by law, service animals are the only exception to this rule. If a pet has been in the Tenant's apartment, even temporarily, the Tenant may be charged a cleaning, de-fleaing, deodorizing, or shampooing any portion of the Leased Property as the discretion of the Landlord.

Stray pets shall not be kept or fed in or about the Leased Property. They can be dangerous and the Landlord must be notified immediately of any stray pets in or about the Leased Property.

Notices. Notices under this Lease shall not be deemed valid unless given or served in writing and forwarded by text message, mail, postage pre-paid, addressed to the party at the appropriate address set forth below. Such addresses may be changed from time to time by either party by providing notice as set forth below. Notices mailed in accordance with these Provisions shall be deemed received on the third day after posting.

The Landlord: Thomas Gleason and Tacy Surret: 4437166925,
gleasonfolk+property@gmail.com, 223 S Chester St, Baltimore, MD 21231

The Tenant: Mattia Ippolito 4439046035, 244 S Duncan St, Baltimore, MD 21231

Military Termination Clause. In the event the Tenant is, or hereafter becomes, a member of the United States Armed Forces on extended active duty and hereafter the Tenant receives permanent change of station orders to depart from the area where the Leased Property is located; is relieved from active duty, retired, or separated from the military; or is ordered into military housing, the Tenant may terminate this Lease upon giving 30 days written notice to the Landlord. The Tenant shall also provide to the Landlord a copy of the official orders or a letter signed by the Tenant's commanding officer reflecting the change that warrants termination under this clause. The Tenant will pay pro-rated Rent for any days they occupy the dwelling past the first day of the month.

Early Termination Clause. The Tenant may, upon giving 60 days written notice to the Landlord, terminate this Lease. The Landlord may collect damages resulting from any early termination from the Tenant to the maximum extent allowable by law. Termination will be effective as of the last day of the calendar month following the end of the 60 day notice period. Early termination damages will be in addition to all Rent due up to the termination day.

Governing Law. This Lease shall be constructed in accordance with the laws of the State of Maryland and Baltimore City.

Severability. If any portion of this Lease shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the remaining provisions shall continue to be valid and enforceable. If a court finds that any provision of this Lease is invalid or unenforceable, but that by limiting such provision it would become valid and enforceable, then such provision shall be deemed to be written, construed, and enforced as so limited. The failure of either party to enforce any provisions of this Lease shall not be construed as a waiver or limitation of that party's right to subsequently enforce and comply with strict compliance with every provision of this Lease.

Estoppel Certificate. The Tenant shall execute and return a tenant estoppel certificate delivered to the Tenant by the Landlord or the Landlord's agent within 3 days after its receipt. Failure to comply with this requirement shall be deemed the Tenant's acknowledgement that the estoppel certificate is true and correct, and may be relied upon by a lender or purchaser.

Attorney's Fees. If either party to this Lease initiates a legal action or proceeding arising from or relating to this Lease, the party that prevails in such action or proceeding shall be entitled to receive, in addition to any other remedies granted, reasonable attorney's fees, costs, and expenses incurred in the action or proceeding. This Provision also covers the recovery of expert witness fees, if applicable.

Binding on Heirs and Successors. The provisions of this Lease shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of both parties and their respective legal representatives, successors, and assigns.

Time of Essence. Time is of the essence with respect to the execution of this Lease.

Full Lease. This Lease contains the entire agreement of the parties and there are no other promises, conditions, understandings, or other agreements, whether oral or written, relating to the subject matter of this Lease. This Lease may be modified or amended in writing, if the writing is signed by the party obligated under the amendment.

Dispute Resolution. The parties will attempt to resolve any dispute arising out of or relating to this Lease through friendly negotiation amongst the parties. If the matter is not resolved by negotiation, the parties will resolve the dispute using the below Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) procedure.

Any controversies or disputes arising out of or relating to this Lease will be submitted to mediation in accordance with any statutory rules of mediation. If mediation does not successfully resolve the dispute, then the parties may proceed to seek an alternative form of resolution in accordance with any other rights and remedies afforded to them by law.

Asbestos. The Landlord is unaware of any asbestos-containing construction materials or any prior reports assessing their presence. Additionally, the Landlord has no knowledge of any potential carcinogens within the Leased Property.

Lead-Based Paint. The Tenant has received the attached lead-based paint disclosure form, which is designed to satisfy federally required disclosure requirements regarding exposure to lead-based paints in the Leased Property.

THIS LEASE CONTAINS A PROVISION THAT IT WILL BE AUTOMATTICALLY RENEWED AND CONVERTED INTO A MONTH-TO-MONTH LEASE IF YOU FAIL TO TIMELY NOTIFY THE LANDLORD THAT YOU DO NOT ELECT TO EXERCISE THE OPTION TO RENEW THE CONTAINED LEASE

The Landlord: *Thomas Gleason*
05-28-2026 08:03:17 AM EDT - 3-8

Tacy Surrett
05-28-2026 01:09:59 PM UTC - 4-9

The Tenant: *Mattia Ippolito*
05-27-2026 10:25:59 PM EDT - 2-7

RECEIPT

By signing above the Landlord hereby acknowledges receipt.

Residential Lease Inspection Checklist

The Tenant has inspected the Leased Property and states that it is in satisfactory condition, free of defects, except as noted below:

	SATISFACTORY	COMMENTS
Bathrooms	☒	
Carpeting	☒	
Ceilings	☒	
Closets	☒	
Countertops	☒	
Dishwasher	☒	
Disposal	☒	
Doors	☒	
Fireplace	☒	
Lights	☒	Enter text here
Locks	☒	
Refrigerator	☒	
Screens	☒	
Stove	☒	
Walls	☒	
Windows	☒	
Window coverings	☒	
Enter text here	☒	

05/27/2026
Date

The Tenant:

Disclosure of Information on Lead-Based Paint or Lead-Based Hazards

Lead Warning Statement:

Housing built before 1978 may contain lead-based paint. Lead from paint, paint chips, and dust can pose health hazards if not managed properly. Lead exposure is especially harmful to young children and pregnant women. Before renting pre-1978 housing, landlords must disclose the presence of known lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the dwelling. The Tenant must also receive a federally approved pamphlet on lead poisoning prevention.

Landlord's Disclosure:

The Leased Property was built before 1978, and the Landlord discloses the following to the Tenant in accordance with applicable law:

(a) Presence of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards (check one):

_____ Known lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards are present in the Leased Property and/or Building (explain, including the basis for the determination that lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards exist, the location of the lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards (including in the Common Areas), and the condition of the painted surfaces):

76 _____ The Landlord has no knowledge of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the Leased Property or Building.

(b) Records and reports available to the Landlord (check one):

_____ The Landlord has provided the Tenant with all available records and reports pertaining to lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the Leased Property and/or Building (list documents below):

76 _____ The Landlord has no records or reports pertaining to lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the Leased Property and/or Building.

Acknowledgements:

MI _____ The Tenant has received copies of all information listed above (Tenant initial).

MI _____ The Tenant has received the pamphlet Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein (Tenant initial).

The Landlord and the Tenant acknowledge and agree that the parties have reviewed the information above and each party certifies, to the best of the party's knowledge, that the information provided is true and accurate.

Pet Addendum. The Tenant shall be permitted to have one pet cat on the Property for the duration of this Lease and its renewal. A one time fee of \$400 shall be paid prior to bring the pet cat onto the Property. This one time fee shall cover up to and only all normal wear and tear to be expected by the presence of one pet cat. The Tenant shall make reasonable efforts to keep the Property clean with respect to pet discharges, odors, and potential pests resulting from the presence of a pet. The Tenant shall prevent damages in excess of normal wear and tear due to the behavior of said pet. Any such damages beyond normal wear and tear shall be brought to the attention of the Landlord upon the Tenant becoming aware of such damages.

Mattia Ippolito

05-27-2026 10:25:59 PM EDT - 2-36

Thomas Gleason

05-28-2026 08:03:17 AM EDT - 3-37

Disclosure of Information on Lead-Based Paint or Lead-Based Hazards

Lead Warning Statement:

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TG _____ The Landlord has no knowledge of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the Leased Property or Building.

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Thomas Gleason

05-28-2026 08:03:17 AM EDT - 3-1

Tacy Surrett

05-28-2026 01:09:59 PM UTC - 4-2

Mattia Ippolito

05-27-2026 10:25:59 PM EDT - 2-3

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	SATISFACTORY	COMMENTS
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Carpeting	☐	
Ceilings	☒	
Closets	☒	
Countertops	☒	
Dishwasher	☒	
Disposal	☒	
Doors	☒	
Fireplace	☒	
Lights	☒	Enter text here
Locks	☒	
Refrigerator	☒	
Screens	☒	
Stove	☒	
Walls	☒	
Windows	☒	
Window coverings	☒	
Enter text here	☒	

05/26/2026

Date

The Tenant:

Mattia Ippolito

05-27-2026 10:25:59 PM EDT - 2-1



Protect Your Family From Lead in Your Home



United States
Environmental
Protection Agency



United States
Consumer Product
Safety Commission



United States
Department of Housing
and Urban Development

Are You Planning to Buy or Rent a Home Built Before 1978?

Did you know that many homes built before 1978 have **lead-based paint**? Lead from paint, chips, and dust can pose serious health hazards.

Read this entire brochure to learn:

- How lead gets into the body
- How lead affects health
- What you can do to protect your family
- Where to go for more information

Before renting or buying a pre-1978 home or apartment, federal law requires:

- Sellers must disclose known information on lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards before selling a house.
- Real estate sales contracts must include a specific warning statement about lead-based paint. Buyers have up to 10 days to check for lead.
- Landlords must disclose known information on lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards before leases take effect. Leases must include a specific warning statement about lead-based paint.

If undertaking renovations, repairs, or painting (RRP) projects in your pre-1978 home or apartment:

- Read EPA's pamphlet, *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right*, to learn about the lead-safe work practices that contractors are required to follow when working in your home (see page 12).



Simple Steps to Protect Your Family from Lead Hazards

If you think your home has lead-based paint:

- Don't try to remove lead-based paint yourself.
- Always keep painted surfaces in good condition to minimize deterioration.
- Get your home checked for lead hazards. Find a certified inspector or risk assessor at [epa.gov/lead](https://www.epa.gov/lead).
- Talk to your landlord about fixing surfaces with peeling or chipping paint.
- Regularly clean floors, window sills, and other surfaces.
- Take precautions to avoid exposure to lead dust when remodeling.
- When renovating, repairing, or painting, hire only EPA- or state-approved Lead-Safe certified renovation firms.
- Before buying, renting, or renovating your home, have it checked for lead-based paint.
- Consult your health care provider about testing your children for lead. Your pediatrician can check for lead with a simple blood test.
- Wash children's hands, bottles, pacifiers, and toys often.
- Make sure children eat healthy, low-fat foods high in iron, calcium, and vitamin C.
- Remove shoes or wipe soil off shoes before entering your house.

Lead Gets into the Body in Many Ways

Adults and children can get lead into their bodies if they:

- Breathe in lead dust (especially during activities such as renovations, repairs, or painting that disturb painted surfaces).
- Swallow lead dust that has settled on food, food preparation surfaces, and other places.
- Eat paint chips or soil that contains lead.

Lead is especially dangerous to children under the age of 6.

- At this age, children's brains and nervous systems are more sensitive to the damaging effects of lead.
- Children's growing bodies absorb more lead.
- Babies and young children often put their hands and other objects in their mouths. These objects can have lead dust on them.



Women of childbearing age should know that lead is dangerous to a developing fetus.

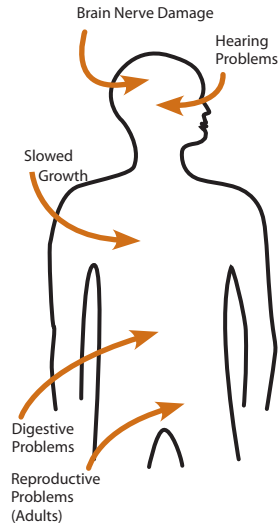
- Women with a high lead level in their system before or during pregnancy risk exposing the fetus to lead through the placenta during fetal development.

Health Effects of Lead

Lead affects the body in many ways. It is important to know that even exposure to low levels of lead can severely harm children.

In children, exposure to lead can cause:

- Nervous system and kidney damage
- Learning disabilities, attention-deficit disorder, and decreased intelligence
- Speech, language, and behavior problems
- Poor muscle coordination
- Decreased muscle and bone growth
- Hearing damage



While low-lead exposure is most common, exposure to high amounts of lead can have devastating effects on children, including seizures, unconsciousness, and in some cases, death.

Although children are especially susceptible to lead exposure, lead can be dangerous for adults, too.

In adults, exposure to lead can cause:

- Harm to a developing fetus
- Increased chance of high blood pressure during pregnancy
- Fertility problems (in men and women)
- High blood pressure
- Digestive problems
- Nerve disorders
- Memory and concentration problems
- Muscle and joint pain

Check Your Family for Lead

Get your children and home tested if you think your home has lead.

Children's blood lead levels tend to increase rapidly from 6 to 12 months of age, and tend to peak at 18 to 24 months of age.

Consult your doctor for advice on testing your children. A simple blood test can detect lead. Blood lead tests are usually recommended for:

- Children at ages 1 and 2
- Children or other family members who have been exposed to high levels of lead
- Children who should be tested under your state or local health screening plan

Your doctor can explain what the test results mean and if more testing will be needed.

Where Lead-Based Paint Is Found

In general, the older your home or childcare facility, the more likely it has lead-based paint.¹

Many homes, including private, federally-assisted, federally-owned housing, and childcare facilities built before 1978 have lead-based paint. In 1978, the federal government banned consumer uses of lead-containing paint.²

Learn how to determine if paint is lead-based paint on page 7.

Lead can be found:

- In homes and childcare facilities in the city, country, or suburbs,
- In private and public single-family homes and apartments,
- On surfaces inside and outside of the house, and
- In soil around a home. (Soil can pick up lead from exterior paint or other sources, such as past use of leaded gas in cars.)

Learn more about where lead is found at [epa.gov/lead](https://www.epa.gov/lead).

¹ “Lead-based paint” is currently defined by the federal government as paint with lead levels greater than or equal to 1.0 milligram per square centimeter (mg/cm²), or more than 0.5% by weight.

² “Lead-containing paint” is currently defined by the federal government as lead in new dried paint in excess of 90 parts per million (ppm) by weight.

Identifying Lead-Based Paint and Lead-Based Paint Hazards

Deteriorated lead-based paint (peeling, chipping, chalking, cracking, or damaged paint) is a hazard and needs immediate attention. **Lead-based paint** may also be a hazard when found on surfaces that children can chew or that get a lot of wear and tear, such as:

- On windows and window sills
- Doors and door frames
- Stairs, railings, banisters, and porches

Lead-based paint is usually not a hazard if it is in good condition and if it is not on an impact or friction surface like a window.

Lead dust can form when lead-based paint is scraped, sanded, or heated. Lead dust also forms when painted surfaces containing lead bump or rub together. Lead paint chips and dust can get on surfaces and objects that people touch. Settled lead dust can reenter the air when the home is vacuumed or swept, or when people walk through it. EPA currently defines the following levels of lead in dust as hazardous:

- 10 micrograms per square foot ($\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$) and higher for floors, including carpeted floors
- 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ and higher for interior window sills

Lead in soil can be a hazard when children play in bare soil or when people bring soil into the house on their shoes. EPA currently defines the following levels of lead in soil as hazardous:

- 400 parts per million (ppm) and higher in play areas of bare soil
- 1,200 ppm (average) and higher in bare soil in the remainder of the yard

Remember, lead from paint chips—which you can see—and lead dust—which you may not be able to see—both can be hazards.

The only way to find out if paint, dust, or soil lead hazards exist is to test for them. The next page describes how to do this.

Checking Your Home for Lead

You can get your home tested for lead in several different ways:

- A lead-based paint **inspection** tells you if your home has lead-based paint and where it is located. It won't tell you whether your home currently has lead hazards. A trained and certified testing professional, called a lead-based paint inspector, will conduct a paint inspection using methods, such as:
 - Portable x-ray fluorescence (XRF) machine
 - Lab tests of paint samples
- A **risk assessment** tells you if your home currently has any lead hazards from lead in paint, dust, or soil. It also tells you what actions to take to address any hazards. A trained and certified testing professional, called a risk assessor, will:
 - Sample paint that is deteriorated on doors, windows, floors, stairs, and walls
 - Sample dust near painted surfaces and sample bare soil in the yard
 - Get lab tests of paint, dust, and soil samples
- A combination inspection and risk assessment tells you if your home has any lead-based paint and if your home has any lead hazards, and where both are located.



Be sure to read the report provided to you after your inspection or risk assessment is completed, and ask questions about anything you do not understand.

Checking Your Home for Lead, continued

In preparing for renovation, repair, or painting work in a pre-1978 home, Lead-Safe Certified renovators (see page 12) may:

- Take paint chip samples to determine if lead-based paint is present in the area planned for renovation and send them to an EPA-recognized lead lab for analysis. In housing receiving federal assistance, the person collecting these samples must be a certified lead-based paint inspector or risk assessor
- Use EPA-recognized tests kits to determine if lead-based paint is absent (but not in housing receiving federal assistance)
- Presume that lead-based paint is present and use lead-safe work practices

There are state and federal programs in place to ensure that testing is done safely, reliably, and effectively. Contact your state or local agency for more information, visit epa.gov/lead, or call **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)** for a list of contacts in your area.³

³ Hearing- or speech-challenged individuals may access this number through TTY by calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

What You Can Do Now to Protect Your Family

If you suspect that your house has lead-based paint hazards, you can take some immediate steps to reduce your family's risk:

- If you rent, notify your landlord of peeling or chipping paint.
- Keep painted surfaces clean and free of dust. Clean floors, window frames, window sills, and other surfaces weekly. Use a mop or sponge with warm water and a general all-purpose cleaner. (Remember: never mix ammonia and bleach products together because they can form a dangerous gas.)
- Carefully clean up paint chips immediately without creating dust.
- Thoroughly rinse sponges and mop heads often during cleaning of dirty or dusty areas, and again afterward.
- Wash your hands and your children's hands often, especially before they eat and before nap time and bed time.
- Keep play areas clean. Wash bottles, pacifiers, toys, and stuffed animals regularly.
- Keep children from chewing window sills or other painted surfaces, or eating soil.
- When renovating, repairing, or painting, hire only EPA- or state-approved Lead-Safe Certified renovation firms (see page 12).
- Clean or remove shoes before entering your home to avoid tracking in lead from soil.
- Make sure children eat nutritious, low-fat meals high in iron, and calcium, such as spinach and dairy products. Children with good diets absorb less lead.

Reducing Lead Hazards

Disturbing lead-based paint or removing lead improperly can increase the hazard to your family by spreading even more lead dust around the house.

- In addition to day-to-day cleaning and good nutrition, you can **temporarily** reduce lead-based paint hazards by taking actions, such as repairing damaged painted surfaces and planting grass to cover lead-contaminated soil. These actions are not permanent solutions and will need ongoing attention.
- You can minimize exposure to lead when renovating, repairing, or painting by hiring an EPA- or state-certified renovator who is trained in the use of lead-safe work practices. If you are a do-it-yourselfer, learn how to use lead-safe work practices in your home.
- To remove lead hazards permanently, you should hire a certified lead abatement contractor. Abatement (or permanent hazard elimination) methods include removing, sealing, or enclosing lead-based paint with special materials. Just painting over the hazard with regular paint is not permanent control.



Always use a certified contractor who is trained to address lead hazards safely.

- Hire a Lead-Safe Certified firm (see page 12) to perform renovation, repair, or painting (RRP) projects that disturb painted surfaces.
- To correct lead hazards permanently, hire a certified lead abatement contractor. This will ensure your contractor knows how to work safely and has the proper equipment to clean up thoroughly.

Certified contractors will employ qualified workers and follow strict safety rules as set by their state or by the federal government.

Reducing Lead Hazards, continued

If your home has had lead abatement work done or if the housing is receiving federal assistance, once the work is completed, dust cleanup activities must be conducted until clearance testing indicates that lead dust levels are below the following levels:

- 10 micrograms per square foot ($\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$) for floors, including carpeted floors
- 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ for interior windows sills
- 400 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ for window troughs

Abatements are designed to permanently eliminate lead-based paint hazards. However, lead dust can be reintroduced into an abated area.

- Use a HEPA vacuum on all furniture and other items returned to the area, to reduce the potential for reintroducing lead dust.
- Regularly clean floors, window sills, troughs, and other hard surfaces with a damp cloth or sponge and a general all-purpose cleaner.

Please see page 9 for more information on steps you can take to protect your home after the abatement. For help in locating certified lead abatement professionals in your area, call your state or local agency (see pages 15 and 16), [epa.gov/lead](https://www.epa.gov/lead), or call 1-800-424-LEAD.

Renovating, Repairing or Painting a Home with Lead-Based Paint

If you hire a contractor to conduct renovation, repair, or painting (RRP) projects in your pre-1978 home or childcare facility (such as pre-school and kindergarten), your contractor must:

- Be a Lead-Safe Certified firm approved by EPA or an EPA-authorized state program
- Use qualified trained individuals (Lead-Safe Certified renovators) who follow specific lead-safe work practices to prevent lead contamination
- Provide a copy of EPA's lead hazard information document, *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right*



RRP contractors working in pre-1978 homes and childcare facilities must follow lead-safe work practices that:

- **Contain the work area.** The area must be contained so that dust and debris do not escape from the work area. Warning signs must be put up, and plastic or other impermeable material and tape must be used.
- **Avoid renovation methods that generate large amounts of lead-contaminated dust.** Some methods generate so much lead-contaminated dust that their use is prohibited. They are:
 - Open-flame burning or torching
 - Sanding, grinding, planing, needle gunning, or blasting with power tools and equipment not equipped with a shroud and HEPA vacuum attachment
 - Using a heat gun at temperatures greater than 1100°F
- **Clean up thoroughly.** The work area should be cleaned up daily. When all the work is done, the area must be cleaned up using special cleaning methods.
- **Dispose of waste properly.** Collect and seal waste in a heavy duty bag or sheeting. When transported, ensure that waste is contained to prevent release of dust and debris.

To learn more about EPA's requirements for RRP projects, visit epa.gov/getleadsafe, or read *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right*.

Other Sources of Lead

Lead in Drinking Water

The most common sources of lead in drinking water are lead pipes, faucets, and fixtures.

Lead pipes are more likely to be found in older cities and homes built before 1986.

You can't smell or taste lead in drinking water.

To find out for certain if you have lead in drinking water, have your water tested.

Remember older homes with a private well can also have plumbing materials that contain lead.

Important Steps You Can Take to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

- Use only cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. Remember, boiling water does not remove lead from water.
- Before drinking, flush your home's pipes by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load of dishes.
- Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator).
- If you use a filter certified to remove lead, don't forget to read the directions to learn when to change the cartridge. Using a filter after it has expired can make it less effective at removing lead.

Contact your water company to determine if the pipe that connects your home to the water main (called a service line) is made from lead. Your area's water company can also provide information about the lead levels in your system's drinking water.

For more information about lead in drinking water, please contact EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. If you have other questions about lead poisoning prevention, call 1-800 424-LEAD.*

Call your local health department or water company to find out about testing your water, or visit [epa.gov/safewater](https://www.epa.gov/safewater) for EPA's lead in drinking water information. Some states or utilities offer programs to pay for water testing for residents. Contact your state or local water company to learn more.

* Hearing- or speech-challenged individuals may access this number through TTY by calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

Other Sources of Lead, continued

- **Lead smelters** or other industries that release lead into the air.
- **Your job.** If you work with lead, you could bring it home on your body or clothes. Shower and change clothes before coming home. Launder your work clothes separately from the rest of your family's clothes.
- **Hobbies** that use lead, such as making pottery or stained glass, or refinishing furniture. Call your local health department for information about hobbies that may use lead.
- Old **toys** and **furniture** may have been painted with lead-containing paint. Older toys and other children's products may have parts that contain lead.⁴
- Food and liquids cooked or stored in **lead crystal** or **lead-glazed pottery or porcelain** may contain lead.
- Folk remedies, such as "**greta**" and "**azarcon**," used to treat an upset stomach.

⁴ In 1978, the federal government banned toys, other children's products, and furniture with lead-containing paint. In 2008, the federal government banned lead in most children's products. The federal government currently bans lead in excess of 100 ppm by weight in most children's products.

For More Information

The National Lead Information Center

Learn how to protect children from lead poisoning and get other information about lead hazards on the Web at epa.gov/lead and hud.gov/lead, or call **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)**.

EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline

For information about lead in drinking water, call **1-800-426-4791**, or visit epa.gov/safewater for information about lead in drinking water.

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Hotline

For information on lead in toys and other consumer products, or to report an unsafe consumer product or a product-related injury, call **1-800-638-2772**, or visit CPSC's website at cpsc.gov or saferproducts.gov.

State and Local Health and Environmental Agencies

Some states, tribes, and cities have their own rules related to lead-based paint. Check with your local agency to see which laws apply to you. Most agencies can also provide information on finding a lead abatement firm in your area, and on possible sources of financial aid for reducing lead hazards. Receive up-to-date address and phone information for your state or local contacts on the Web at epa.gov/lead, or contact the National Lead Information Center at **1-800-424-LEAD**.

Hearing- or speech-challenged individuals may access any of the phone numbers in this brochure through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at **1-800-877-8339**.

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regional Offices

The mission of EPA is to protect human health and the environment. Your Regional EPA Office can provide further information regarding regulations and lead protection programs.

Region 1 (Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100, OES 05-4
Boston, MA 02109-3912
(888) 372-7341

Region 2 (New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 2
2890 Woodbridge Avenue
Building 205, Mail Stop 225
Edison, NJ 08837-3679
(732) 906-6809

Region 3 (Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, DC, West Virginia)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 3
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 814-2088

Region 4 (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 4
AFC Tower, 12th Floor, Air, Pesticides & Toxics
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 562-8998

Region 5 (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 5 (LL-17J)
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3666
(312) 353-3808

Region 6 (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and 66 Tribes)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, 12th Floor
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
(214) 665-2704

Region 7 (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 7
11201 Renner Blvd.
Lenexa, KS 66219
(800) 223-0425

Region 8 (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop St.
Denver, CO 80202
(303) 312-6966

Region 9 (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 9 (CMD-4-2)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 947-4280

Region 10 (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 10 (20-C04)
Air and Toxics Enforcement Section
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155
Seattle, WA 98101
(206) 553-1200

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

The CPSC protects the public against unreasonable risk of injury from consumer products through education, safety standards activities, and enforcement. Contact CPSC for further information regarding consumer product safety and regulations.

CPSC

4330 East West Highway
Bethesda, MD 20814-4421
1-800-638-2772
cpsc.gov or saferproducts.gov

U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. Contact to Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes for further information regarding the Lead Safe Housing Rule, which protects families in pre-1978 assisted housing, and for the lead hazard control and research grant programs.

HUD

451 Seventh Street, SW, Room 8236
Washington, DC 20410-3000
(202) 402-7698
hud.gov/lead

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IMPORTANT!

Lead From Paint, Dust, and Soil in and Around Your Home Can Be Dangerous if Not Managed Properly

- Children under 6 years old are most at risk for lead poisoning in your home.
- Lead exposure can harm young children and babies even before they are born.
- Homes, schools, and child care facilities built before 1978 are likely to contain lead-based paint.
- Even children who seem healthy may have dangerous levels of lead in their bodies.
- Disturbing surfaces with lead-based paint or removing lead-based paint improperly can increase the danger to your family.
- People can get lead into their bodies by breathing or swallowing lead dust, or by eating soil or paint chips containing lead.
- People have many options for reducing lead hazards. Generally, lead-based paint that is in good condition is not a hazard (see page 10).

MARYLAND TENANTS' BILL OF RIGHTS

(EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025)

Maryland law requires the Office of Tenant and Landlord Affairs to publish a Tenants' Bill of Rights and update it by June 1 each year. Landlords must attach the latest version of this document to every residential lease. (Housing and Community Development Article of the Maryland Code, Sections 5-101 through 5-104 and Real Property Article of the Maryland Code, Section 8-208)

This document summarizes significant rights of tenants under Maryland law. It is not a complete list of every tenant right. It does not cover every detail, exception, or difference that may apply on a case-by-case basis.

Additional information may be available through:

- The Maryland Code references listed with each right or other applicable laws
- Independent research
- Consulting with an attorney

Some local jurisdictions within the state may offer additional rights to residential tenants. But the rights in this Maryland Tenants' Bill of Rights apply to all residential tenants in Maryland.

This is general information and does not constitute legal advice. You are encouraged to speak with an attorney if you have questions about your rights as a tenant. Contact information for legal services is listed at the end of this bill of rights.

1. RENTAL APPLICATIONS

A landlord who rents five or more units may not charge more than \$25 in fees, outside of a security deposit.

Some landlords may choose to accept a tenant screening report prepared in the previous 30 days by a consumer reporting agency which the tenant obtains and pays for. If a landlord accepts such a report from you, the landlord may not charge you an application fee.

(Real Property Article of the Maryland Code, Sections 8-213 and 8-218)

2. LEASES & TENANCIES

A landlord that rents five or more units in Maryland is required to use a written lease. If the landlord does not use a written lease, tenancy is presumed to be 1 year from the tenant's first use of the unit.

However, if your landlord does give you a written lease, it must include:

- A statement of the condition of the property
- An explanation of who is responsible for utility bills and property repairs
- A receipt for your security deposit
- A copy of the most recent version of the Maryland Tenants' Bill of Rights
- Contact information for the landlord or the contact information of an agent authorized to receive notices and service of process on the landlord's behalf.

A landlord that rents four or fewer units in the state is not required to use a written lease.

Some local jurisdictions may require additional information in leases.

A lease may not include:

- Requires you to allow the landlord to "confess judgment" on a claim arising out of the lease;
- Anything that says you give up your legal rights under the law or your right to a jury trial
- Any provision that shortens any notice period required by law
- Any other provision identified in Section 8-208 of the Real Property Article of the Maryland Code, or any other provision otherwise prohibited by law

An automatic renewal term in a lease must:

- Be separate from other parts of the lease
- Be signed or acknowledged by you separately

For the landlord to end your tenancy:

- For a written lease with a stated term, the landlord must notify you in writing at least 60 days before terminating the tenancy
- For month-to-month periodic tenancies, the landlord must notify you in writing at least 60 days before terminating the tenancy
- For year-to-year periodic tenancies, the landlord must notify you in writing at least 90 days before the tenancy ends

For you to end your tenancy:

- For leases with a stated term, month-to-month tenancies, and all other tenancies but a year-to-year tenancy, you must notify your landlord in writing at least 30 days before terminating the tenancy
- For year-to-year tenancies, you must notify your landlord in writing at least 90 days before terminating the tenancy

- Exceptions to these provisions:
 - Exception #1: If you are a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault and have a protective order or peace order, you have 30 days to vacate the leased premises after giving notice. You are only responsible, however, for rent from the time following the notice, until the date that you vacate, which may be fewer than 30 days. If you vacate in fewer than 30 days after giving notice, you must provide signed, notarized, written notification to the landlord, by first class mail or hand delivery, stating that you vacated the premises.
 - Exception #2: These provisions do not apply in Baltimore City.

If neither side gives notice, your lease may automatically renew or become month-to-month, depending on the terms of your lease. Less common tenancies like week-to-week, year-to-year, or farm tenancies have different notice requirements.

(Real Property Article of the Maryland Code, Sections 8-208, 8-210, and 8-402)

3. RENT

- Rent is due as your lease states.
- If you pay rent late, your landlord can charge a late fee, but it cannot be more than 5% of the late rent amount
- Your landlord must give you a receipt for your rent payment if you pay rent in cash.
- Your landlord may only increase your rent when your lease is renewed. In most cases, they must tell you in writing 90 days in advance of any rent increase. Some local jurisdictions may limit the amount by which rent can be increased, but there is no statewide law that limits rent increases when your lease is renewed.
- Your landlord can provide notice of a rent increase by email, text, or electronic tenant portal only if you have agreed to receive notices electronically.
- If you pay utilities directly to your landlord, your landlord must give you copies of the monthly utility bills.

(Real Property Article of the Maryland Code, Sections 8-205, 8-205.1, and 8-208)

4. SECURITY DEPOSITS

In most cases, a landlord may not require you to pay a security deposit higher than one month's rent. But your security deposit may be up to two months' rent. If you qualify for utility assistance from the Department of Human Services and lease agreement requires that you make payments for utility services directly to your landlord.,

A "security deposit" is any payment you give to the landlord to cover things like breaking the lease, damage to the property, or unpaid rent, including pet deposits.

Your landlord may not require you to pay more than the sum of the first month's rent and the security deposit before you move in.

The landlord must keep your security deposit in an interest-paying bank account and give you a written receipt, which must be included with the written lease. The landlord must advise you about your rights and the landlord's responsibilities relating to the security deposit when you pay the security deposit.

At the end of your tenancy, your landlord must provide you with a written list of any charges deducted from the security deposit. They must return the rest of your deposit with interest within 45 days.

If you plan to move out, you must send your landlord a certified letter at least 15 days before leaving. The letter should say you're moving and give your new address. If you do this, you have the right to be present when the landlord inspects your unit for damage that may reduce your security deposit.

Charges a landlord may legally deduct your security deposit include

- Damage to the property beyond normal wear and tear
- Unpaid rent or utility bills
- Costs or fees from an eviction case judgment

If the landlord does not return your deposit or give you a written list of charges within 45 days after you move out, they may lose the right to keep any of the deposit. You may also be able to get up to three times any amounts they unlawfully did not return.

(Real Property Article of the Maryland Code, Sections 8-203 and 8-203.1)

5. CONDITION OF RENTAL UNITS

Every rental property must be "fit for human habitation," meaning that it is safe and suitable for people to live in and free from problems (serious defects or conditions) that could cause a fire or that are a serious and substantial threat to your life, health or safety.

If you find such a problem, notify your landlord in writing right away. You must provide your landlord with access to your property to make repairs.

If your landlord doesn't fix the problem within a reasonable time after you provide notice, you have options: you can bring suit in the District Court for damages and a decrease in rent, or you may refuse to pay rent (and then raise the issues as a defense to the landlord's suit for rent). . You may also file a rent escrow case, through which you pay rent into the court instead of the landlord.

You have the right to basic services, including heat, light, electricity, hot and cold running water, and proper sewage disposal. Depending on the specific safety or living condition problems in your unit (for example in the case of lead paint), you may

- Have the right for temporary relocation assistance from the landlord
- Take legal action if your landlord does not assist with safe relocation

If the issue is not dangerous but violates local housing codes, you may contact your local code enforcement office if your landlord does not respond.

You have the right to quiet enjoyment of your rental unit for the duration of your tenancy as well as the right to move in and use the unit starting on the date listed in your lease.

(Real Property Article of the Maryland Code, Sections 8-204, 8-211, and 8-212)

6. EVICTIONS

If you violate your lease, don't pay rent on time, or don't move out when your lease ends, your landlord may start the eviction process by filing a case in the District Court.

Your landlord may not evict you unless the District Court has given the landlord the right to the property (called a judgment of possession) and issued an order to remove you (called a warrant of restitution). Efforts to evict you include changing the locks, shutting off utilities, or other similar actions to prevent your access to the unit or ability to live safely in the unit.

You have the right to attend any court hearing in an eviction case brought against you by a landlord. You may also have the right to have an attorney provided to represent you if you are unable to afford one.

If you owe rent, your landlord must notify you in writing at least 10 days before filing an eviction case for failure to pay rent against you in District Court. The 10 day notice requirement is not required for other types of eviction filings, such as a lease violation or staying in the rental unit longer than the time allowed by your lease.

If judgment is entered against you for failing to pay rent, you have four days to appeal that decision to the Circuit Court.

In most cases, you can stop the eviction by paying all past-due amounts and any court costs the court orders you to pay before the eviction is carried out. This is called the "right of redemption."

However, redemption is not an option if you have had 3 (4 in Baltimore City) or more eviction judgments for unpaid rent in the 12 months before the current case.

(Real Property Article of the Maryland Code, Sections 8-401, 8-402, 8-402.1, and 8-902)

7. CONSTRUCTIVE EVICTIONS

In Maryland, constructive eviction occurs when a landlord's actions - or failure to act – make it difficult for a tenant to use and enjoy their rental unit, forcing the tenant to move out.

In order to successfully claim constructive eviction, a tenant must prove several things, such as the landlord's actions or neglect significantly disrupted the tenant's use and enjoyment of the property, the landlord is responsible for the interference, the tenant told the landlord about the issue, and the tenant moved out a reasonable time after the interference. If you are interested in pursuing a claim for constructive eviction, you should consult with an attorney.

If constructive eviction is proven (1) You can treat your lease as ended and you are no longer responsible for paying rent; and (2) you may be able to sue the landlord for your losses. This may include moving costs, rent differences, attorney fees, and other related expenses resulting from the constructive eviction claim.

Landlords must avoid substantial interference with the tenant's enjoyment of their rental property, ensure the rental property is safe and livable, and generally respond to tenant complaints promptly to avoid legal and financial consequences.

8. TENANT RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL

If you are a named tenant on the lease and have lived in a rental property with 1, 2, or 3 units for at least six months, your landlord may be required to give you the chance to buy the property before selling it to someone else. This applies if your landlord plans to sell the property, or receives an offer to buy it from a third party. This rule does not apply in certain situations, such as when the property is transferred without a sale; for example, when the property is transferred to a family member, to a business owned by the landlord, or pursuant to a court order, among several other examples. .

If your landlord notifies you that they intend to sell the property to a third party, the notice should also include your right to make an offer to buy it. You have 30 days from the date of the notice to make an offer to buy the property or decline.

If you make an offer with the same or better terms than those in the notice, your landlord must accept it. If you decline to make an offer, your landlord may sell the property to a third party.

Some local jurisdictions may have their own laws about a tenant's right of first refusal or the opportunity to buy a rental property in cases not covered by state law.

(Real Property Article of the Maryland Code, Section 8-119)

9. PROHIBITED ACTS BY LANDLORDS

Housing discrimination is illegal under state and federal law. Landlords may not discriminate against potential or current tenants on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, source of income, or military status. Some local jurisdictions may provide additional anti-discrimination protections.

A landlord may not retaliate, or threaten to retaliate, against you for

- a. making a good faith complaint about a violation of your lease, violation of the law, or the condition of the rental property;
- b. filing or participating in a lawsuit involving the landlord;
- c. participating in a tenants' organization;
- d. requesting police or emergency services at the property; or
- e. providing information to the landlord relating to lead paint issues.

Retaliation may include filing or threatening to file a lawsuit against you, increasing the rent, decreasing the services to you as a tenant (for example, shutting off utilities), failing to make necessary repairs, or terminating your tenancy, among other things.

Unless your lease provides otherwise, you have the right to quiet enjoyment of your residence. Your landlord has the right to enter your unit for legitimate purposes such as making necessary repairs, inspecting the unit, or showing the unit to prospective renters. Starting October 1, 2025, your landlord must notify you in writing at least 24 hours in advance of the inspection or repairs and can only enter the unit Monday through Saturday, from 7am to 7pm, unless it is an emergency. Your lease may provide more details, and your local jurisdiction may have more rules on when your landlord may enter your unit.

(Title 42, Sections 3601 and following of the United States Code; State Government Article of the Maryland Code, Sections 20-101, 20-704, and 20-705; Real Property Article of the Maryland Code, Sections 2-115, 8-204, 8-208.1, and 8-208.2)

Exceptions to the protections of these laws exist in certain circumstances.

The Maryland Office of Tenant and Landlord Affairs website has additional language translations of the Tenant Bill of Rights on the website listed below.

10. RESOURCES

Office of Tenant and Landlord Affairs

Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development

[Tenant and Landlord Affairs Website](https://dhcd.maryland.gov/Tenant-Landlord-Affairs/Pages/default.aspx) (<https://dhcd.maryland.gov/Tenant-Landlord-Affairs/Pages/default.aspx>)

The Office of Tenant and Landlord Affairs website has additional educational information and support staff for navigating renter rights and laws, including:

- Contact information for local legal aid organizations
- Contact information for local county offices of tenant rights
- Contact information for local homeless services and rental assistance programs if you have already lost your housing
- Frequently asked questions and answers for tenants and landlords
- Outreach materials for tenants and landlords
- How to report a case of fair housing discrimination or landlord violation of federal, state, or local renter laws to enforcement agencies

Maryland Access to Counsel in Evictions Program

Contact Information: Call 211 or go to [Legal Help Maryland](https://www.legalhelpmd.org) (LegalHelpMD.org)

Services Provided:

- This program can provide legal representation and advice to renters who have household income at or below 50% of Maryland's median income, and the household is at risk of eviction, have lost or are at risk of losing their housing voucher or subsidy.

Maryland District Court Self-Help Centers

Contact Information and Hours: [District Court Help Centers](https://www.courts.state.md.us/helpcenter/inperson/dc)
(<https://www.courts.state.md.us/helpcenter/inperson/dc>)

Services Provided:

- The self-help centers can assist renters with a landlord-tenant issue or case who are not already represented by a lawyer or attorney.
- The centers offer live chat, phone, and in-person services at 10 district court locations.
- Renters can receive help with understanding court documents, preparing for court hearings, completing court forms, preparing for mediation, and finding a lawyer.



BALTIMORE CITY
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



RENTAL PROPERTY LICENSE

License No: L-514272
Registration No: R176833

License Expiration Date: August 14, 2028

OWNER
GLEASON, THOMAS P | SURRETT, TACY J
223 S CHESTER ST
Baltimore MD 21231

OPERATOR
[Redacted]

Property Address: 223 S CHESTER ST Block/Lot: 1757 052

Inspection Date: July 22, 2025 License Issue Date: August 14, 2025

DWELLING UNITS COUNT	ROOMING UNITS COUNT	OTHER UNITS COUNT	RENTAL LICENSE EXPIRATION DATE
1	0	0	August 14, 2028

FOR MULTIPLE-FAMILY DWELLINGS OR ROOMING HOUSES, THIS LICENSE MUST BE PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED IN THE VESTIBULE, LOBBY, OR OTHER PUBLIC PLACE ON THE PREMISES

FOR A 1- OR 2-FAMILY DWELLING, THIS LICENSE MUST BE LOCATED IN AN AREA OF EACH DWELLING UNIT THAT IS ACCESSIBLE TO THAT UNIT'S OCCUPANT AND TO HOUSING INSPECTORS

Detach and post as instructed above, keep top portion for your records



BALTIMORE CITY
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



OWNER
GLEASON, THOMAS P | SURRETT, TACY J

Baltimore, MD 21231
4437166925

OPERATOR
Owner name unable to be corrected in the above field.

Property Address: 223 S CHESTER ST Block/Lot: 1757 052

DWELLING UNITS COUNT	ROOMING UNITS COUNT	OTHER UNITS COUNT	REGISTRATION NUMBER	INSPECTION DATE	RENTAL LICENSE EXPIRATION DATE
1	0	0	L-514272	July 22, 2025	August 14, 2028

RENTAL PROPERTY LICENSE