

## HOW MINIMALISM CAN MAKE RENTING MORE CONVENIENT

While many people could criticise renting saying that the money you pay for your weekly rent isn't going towards paying off your own home, there's also an array of benefits that come with renting. Not only does renting allow you to experience living in areas where you may not be able to buy a home, but renting also keeps you nimble. Want to try apartment living? Simply look for apartments at the end of your current lease. Bored with living in a suburban area? Start looking at places right in the hustle and bustle of your city.

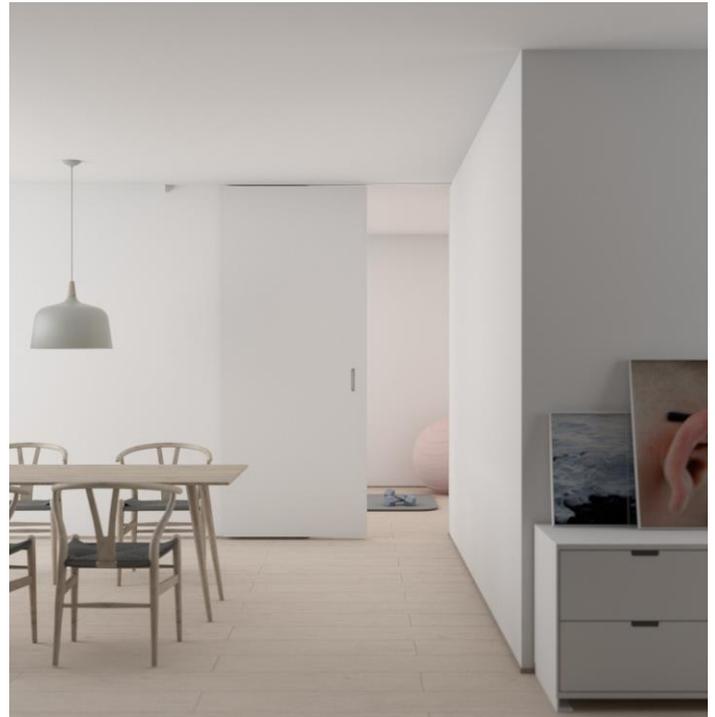
On the downside, you may love where you're renting, and you're facing the prospect of your landlord selling your property or moving back into it themselves. With the possibility that you could be on the move quite regularly as a renter, embracing the minimalist lifestyle can make this process easier. Here's how minimalism can make renting more convenient.

### **Moving becomes easier**

Whether you want to move out of your current property or not, having fewer personal possessions to move between properties makes moving easier. Not only is it easier to pack, but you'll also save money on removalists particularly if they're charging you an hourly rate. If you're very minimalistic with your belongings, you may even be able to move places by yourself if you have access to a large vehicle or ute.

### **You put more thought into your furniture purchases**

When you're a minimalist, the big-ticket purchases you make require some thought especially if you don't know where you'll be living next. Instead of hastily making big purchases that only work in your current property, as a minimalist you're more likely to put some extra time and thought into that next sofa purchase. For example, if you love apartment living and you usually live in a smaller place, you might spend the time to research and find a couch that includes hidden storage space or sofa bed.



### **You limit your financial commitments**

As a minimalist with your personal possessions, it's natural to wonder how you can practice minimalism in other areas of your life. With the freedom that is renting, it may be hard to justify committing to something like a 24-month gym membership or internet account. To enjoy all the benefits of a gym membership without the long-term financial commitment, you could try ClassPass or research the month-to-month options that your local gyms offer. While you may not find something flexible at each business, more and more companies realise the value that flexibility provides to their customers today.

Renting provides many benefits to people with today's busy lifestyle. While it can be difficult not knowing if you're staying in the same property year after year, practising minimalism as a renter will make renting more convenient for you.

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# THINGS YOU NEED TO BUY BEFORE YOU MOVE INTO A SHARE HOUSE

Moving into a share house is an exciting milestone for many renters. Whether you're moving in with a group of friends or you've found your dream housemates on Flatmates.com, there are a few things you'll need to buy before the big move. Here's our list of what you need to buy before you move into a share house.

## **An indoor plant**

It's probably best to buy this one after you've finished moving and you've checked your housemates don't have any allergies. An indoor plant is a great way to brighten up any space and filter the air in your home. You could buy an indoor plant for your bedroom or even check if your housemates would be ok with you adding a plant to one of the shared living areas in your place.

## **Linen**

There's nothing better than climbing into bed with fresh new linen. Moving into a share house is the perfect time to spruce up your linen so take the opportunity to buy some linen that will make you excited for sleep every night.

In a share house, making sure you always have a clean towel is also important. Buy a few new towels to keep in your bedroom, so you always have clean linen set aside for yourself.

## **Fresh cutlery**

Not everyone likes to share the mystery cutlery already available in their kitchen when they move. If you'd like fresh cutlery, take the opportunity to buy yourself a set of new kitchen items before your big move.

## **A deep wok or non-stick fry pan**

Along with your fresh cutlery, a new fry pan will make sure you have your own clean items to cook with every day. A deep wok or non-stick fry pan will give you a versatile item for cooking stir-fry, soaking noodles or even cooking pasta.

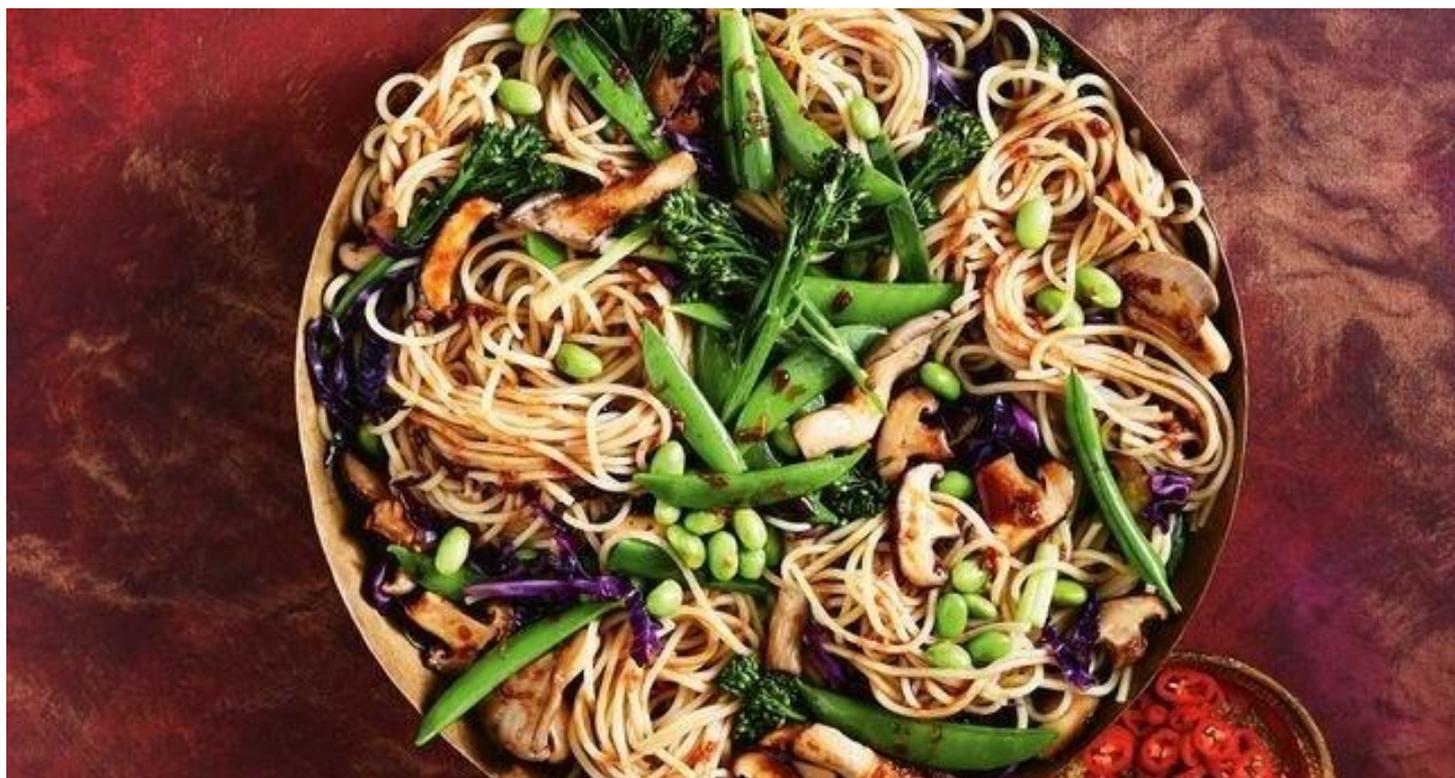
## **A mirror**

If you're moving to a share house, there's a good chance you may be sharing a bathroom (unless you've scored the master bedroom). Adding a mirror to your bedroom is a great way to avoid waiting for the bathroom when you need to put on some makeup or do your hair.

Purchasing the items listed above before you move into a share house will make your transition to the new place a smooth one, plus it will make you feel more at home. These items don't need to break the bank either with stores like Target and Kmart offering affordable options for everything you need at home.



## VEGETARIAN LONGEVITY NOODLES



Noodle dishes are an excellent option for a healthy mid-week dinner. And the best part? If there are leftovers, you've got lunch sorted for the next day too. Taste.com.au's vegetarian longevity noodles provide a wide range of all the nutrients you need from vegetables while the tasty sauce brings all the flavours together.

0:20 prep | 0:15 cook | serves 6

### Ingredients:

360g Ramen noodles  
 2 teaspoons peanut oil  
 150g shiitake mushrooms, trimmed, sliced  
 150g oyster mushrooms, halved if large  
 4 green shallots, trimmed, cut into 4cm lengths  
 1 bunch broccolini, trimmed, stems halved lengthways  
 150g sugar snap peas, trimmed  
 100g frozen podded edamame  
 200g red cabbage, thinly shredded  
 60ml (1/4 cup) ABC Sweet Soy Sauce Kecap Manis  
 2 garlic cloves, crushed  
 4cm piece ginger, peeled, finely grated  
 2 tablespoons rice wine vinegar  
 1 tablespoon soy sauce  
 Sliced long fresh red chilli, to serve

Recipe source:

<https://www.taste.com.au/recipes/vegetarian-longevity-noodles-recipe/qvlumqw6>

### Method:

**Step 1:** Cook the noodles in a saucepan of boiling water for 3 minutes. Drain and set aside.

**Step 2:** Heat oil in a wok over medium-high heat. Add the mushrooms and shallot and stir-fry for 3 minutes. Add the broccolini, sugar snap peas and edamame and stir-fry for 2 minutes. Add the cabbage and stir-fry for 2 minutes, adding a tablespoon of water.

**Step 3:** Combine the kecap manis, garlic, ginger, vinegar and soy sauce. Add to wok with the noodles and stir-fry for 2 minutes or until combined and heated through.

**Step 4:** Divide the noodles among serving bowls. Top with chilli.