

RENTING VS BUYING CHECKLIST

There's no "right" answer – only the right choice for your current season.
Use this checklist to gain clarity.

Lifestyle & Timing

- I plan to stay in the same area for 3–5+ years
- I value stability more than flexibility
- I'm comfortable committing to a specific location
- I don't anticipate major life changes soon (job, family, relocation)

Mostly checked? → Buying may align better

Financial Readiness

- I have savings for upfront costs (down payment, closing, inspections)
- My monthly budget comfortably supports a mortgage payment
- I have an emergency fund after purchase
- My credit and debt levels are mortgage-ready
- I'm prepared for property taxes, insurance, and maintenance

Mostly checked? → Buying could be financially realistic

Responsibility & Comfort Level

- I'm comfortable handling repairs and upkeep
- I'm prepared for unexpected expenses
- I want the freedom to personalize my space
- I prefer control over my home environment

Mostly checked? → Buying may be a good fit

Long-Term Goals

- Building equity is important to me
- I see homeownership as part of my long-term plan
- I'm thinking about future resale or appreciation
- I want predictable housing costs over time

Mostly checked? → Buying may support your goals

Flexibility & Peace of Mind

- I need the option to move quickly if needed
- I prefer minimal financial commitment
- I value simplicity and fewer obligations
- I want predictable, low-risk housing costs

Final Reflection

If mostly checked, you may be entering a season where homeownership makes sense. If mostly unchecked, renting might be the better option and that's not a setback – it's a strategic choice for this stage of life. Your season will change – and your housing choice will change with it. Let's connect and see what season you're in.