

About  
NPO Kanagawa Housing  
Support Center for  
Foreign Residents

がいこくじん かた  
外国人すまい方ガイド  
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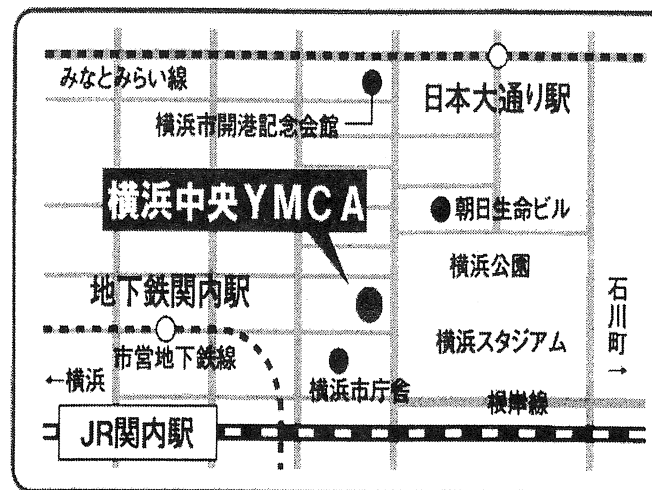
LIVING GUIDE FOR FOREIGNERS

Points to keep in mind  
after renting housing

This leaflet is made by Kanagawa Housing Support Center for Foreign Residents (NPO) on commission from Kanagawa Pref. Government.

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Yokohama YMCA, 2F. It is in front of Yokohama Stadium

This leaflet gives you useful information and advice regarding:

- Things to do after renting housing
- Rules and manners to follow
- Things to do when moving out

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## Things to do after renting housing

### 1 Check inside the room

- ① Room keys are given to you upon completion of a lease contract. You have to return them when terminating the contract. Please do not lose them.
  - ② Check the following:
    - A) Do the doors and the windows open and shut smoothly?
    - B) Do the keys function well?
    - C) Are there any stains or cracks on the walls or floors?
- ※ If any, please confirm the flaws with your agent or the owner.

### 2 Procedure for using electricity

- ① Notify your moving day to the local branch of Tokyo Electric Company in advance. Ask if your agent or the owner did it for you.
- ② If you notify by yourself, find and contact a local branch or office of Tokyo Electric Company.

- ③ After moving in, flip the circuit breaker and confirm the installed electricity apparatuses work (lights, air-conditioner, etc.).
- ④ Check out the electrical capacitance (Amperage)
- ⑤ If a blackout occurs, check the circuit breaker.
- ⑥ Confirm cable installation for TV or PC has been completed.

### 3 Procedure for using gas

- ① A person from a gas company should deal with gas. Call a local gas company and make an appointment for opening the gas tap.
- ② Make sure that you or one of your family accompanies the gas company staff on the appointment day.
- ③ Ask the person for how to use the gas apparatus on site.

### 4 Procedure for using water

- ① Notify your moving day to a local water company in advance. Ask if your agent or the owner did it for you.
  - ② If you notify by yourself, find and contact a local water company.
- ① After moving in, make sure that: there are no leaks, the water heater works, the bath water drains well, the toilet flushes well, etc.

### 5 Procedure for buying a house phone number

(if necessary) Contact a local telephone company for buying a phone number.

## Rules and manners to follow

### 1 After moving in

- When you meet your neighbors in the corridors or in the elevator, greet them by sayin"Kon-nichiwa" (Hello).

### 2 How to dispose rubbish

- ① In Japan, rubbish is disposed according to categories. Rubbish rules vary according to municipalities. Contact your local government about the local rubbish rules and designated days for rubbish removal.
- ② The rules also vary according to apartments or condos. Confirm with your agent or the janitor.
- ③ There is a designated location for rubbish disposal.
- ④ If you dispose the wrong type of rubbish on the wrong day or in the wrong place, your rubbish will not be collected.

Example rules, (they vary)

- A) Rubbish is categorized into plastics, plastic bottles and cans. Put them respectively in the designated bags (if not designated, use semitransparent bags). Reduce garbage as much as possible.

- B) If you miss a day, keep the

rubbish at home until next time.

- C) Oversized garbage means metal, plastic, wooden or glass items which are relatively large.

Call the local government or the oversized garbage reception center for removal. There is a charge for removal of oversized garbage.

### 3 About noise troubles

- ① When playing music, be careful about the volume. When partying, do not be excessively noisy, especially at night.
- ② Consult with your agent or owner if your neighbor is too noisy.

## 4 Items prohibited and other rules

- ① Confirm with your agency or owner in advance if you can keep a pet. Keeping pets may be a violation of the contract.
- ② Do not hammer nails or make any holes into walls or pillars.
- ③ Do not place personal stuff, rubbish or plants in public spaces (corridors, etc.) in a condo or an apartment because these spaces will be evacuation routes in emergency situations. You may get warnings from the fire station.
- ③ Do not place anything on the veranda because it is designated as evacuation route.
- ⑤ Subletting or letting others live together except those notified in the contract is prohibited.
- ⑥ You have to pay the rent or other charges by the designated date.

※Please abide by the Japanese

rules and lead a comfortable life.  
Ask the people around you if you have any questions.

## Things to do when moving out

### 1 Notify your move

- Notify your agent or owner to cancel the contract before the deadline (one or two months prior to your moving day) as mentioned in the contract.

### 2 Electricity, Gas and Water

- ① Notify the offices of electricity, gas and water at least one week before your move.
- ② A person will come from these offices for the closing procedures on your moving day. Confirm how to pay the bill at that time.

### 3 Telephone • Internet • Mail services

- ① Notify the telephone company of your move.
- ② Notify the mobile company of

your new address.

- ③ Notify the internet provider of your move.
- ④ Notify the nearby post office of your new address.

### 4 Removal of oversized garbage collection

- ① Call the local government or the oversized garbage reception center for removal as soon as possible and confirm how to dispose furniture or oversized garbage.
- ② Consult the owner or the janitor if collection day will come after your move.

### 5 Moving your possessions

- ① Finish moving during daytime hours. Do not do it at night to prevent disturbing your neighbors.
- ② Move all of your belongings out of your place and clean up. Do not leave any trash behind.

### 6 At your leaving

- ① Return the room keys to the

agent.

- ② Check the condition of the
- ③ housing with your agent or the owner for any damage caused during your stay, and confirm how much restoration work will be necessary.  
✕ Restoration means to repair damages.

### 7 Settling the deposit

- ① The deposit will usually be refunded to the tenant after the tenant moves out. However, the expenses of restoration work and cleaning cost are deducted from the deposit first.
- ② If the restoration and cleaning cost exceeds the deposit, the tenant should make up the shortfall.