Home

Rooms and furniture, renting and buying, and the words of lawyers, estate agents and idioms, from A1 to C2.

A1–C2 · English Vocabulary, Lesson 18

there are two bedrooms · move in · safe as houses

Homes and rooms *A1–A2*

house	flat
cottage	living room
kitchen	bedroom
bathroom	hall
garden	garage
stairs	window
upstairs	downstairs

There is a hall. There are two bedrooms.

Furniture and things *A1–A2*

sofa	armchair
table, chair	bed
wardrobe	cupboard
shelf (shelves)	lamp
mirror	curtains
carpet	shower
bath	toilet

in · on · under · next to · between · opposite · behind · above

Housing and renting *B1–B2*

Homes: detached, semi-detached, terraced house, bungalow, block of flats, studio flat, council house

Renting: rent, landlord, tenant, deposit, letting agent, tenancy agreement, inventory, bills

Buying: mortgage, estate agent, move house · furnished, unfurnished

Housework and DIY: do the washing-up, hoover, tidy up, make the bed · decorate, put up shelves

Phrasal verbs: move in, move out, settle in, do up, put up, clear out

*We **moved in** last month and we're still **settling in**. The **landlord** wants a **deposit** of five weeks' rent.*

You move house; you don't change house

Precise and figurative *C1–C2*

Formal: dwelling, residence, premises, owner-occupier

Property law: freehold, leasehold, conveyancing, title, listed building, planning permission

Describing: a period property, draughty, damp, cosy (and Danish *hygge*), overcrowding, downsizing

Idioms: a home from home, hit home, bring the house down, on the house, safe as houses, a house of cards

*The cottage is a Grade II **listed building**: lovely and **cosy**, but **draughty** in winter.*

damp (a house) · humid (the weather)

Talking about home

- *Is there a garden? Yes, there is.*
- *The bedrooms are upstairs.*
- *We live on the third floor.*
- *Make yourself at home!*

Common mistakes

- ~~There is two bedrooms.~~ → There **are** two bedrooms.
- ~~furnitures~~ → **furniture**, a piece of furniture
- ~~in the third floor~~ → **on** the third floor
- ~~change house~~ → **move house**

Words with a past

- **cupboard**: a board for cups
- **wardrobe**: guard + robe, a place to keep clothes
- **toilet**: French *toilette*, a small cloth
- **cosy**: Scots, origin uncertain

My new words

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