



This agreement is only to be used where the deposit is to be protected by
DepositGuard – The Tenancy Deposit Scheme (TDS).

Assured shorthold tenancy agreement

under part 1 of the Housing Act 1988

as amended under part 3 of the Housing Act 1996

If you need to pay a deposit, we will deal with it under DepositGuard - Tenancy Deposit Scheme (TDS) which is a Government-approved scheme.

Date:

This agreement is between us:

the landlord or landlords

and you (individually and together):

the tenant or tenants

(Please tick appropriate box)

The rent is: every: calendar month
 4 weeks
 2 weeks
 1 week

You must pay the rent for the month, weeks or week to come (whichever applies).

The rent must be paid in advance.

If someone is not a tenant but has paid towards the deposit, please tick this box and fill in the boxes below.

Names of people paying towards the deposit

Amount paid

Except as shown in the boxes above, you confirm to us that no one who is not a tenant has paid towards the deposit.

A We let out the property at:

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to you (individually and together if there is more than one of you) as well as the furniture, fixtures and household belongings that are on the list that you and we signed. The amount of rent is shown on the previous page and both you and we must keep to the terms below.

2 You will have the property and the furniture for l
from m to n

If, at the end of this time, you stay in the property, the tenancy will carry on as a statutory periodic tenancy. The periods of this tenancy will depend on the periods for which you pay rent. You must give at least four weeks' (or a month if you pay rent monthly) notice to end it. This notice must end on the last day of a tenancy period.

3 This agreement is an assured shorthold tenancy (as defined in section 19A of the Housing Act 1988). The arrangements in section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 for the landlord to repossess the property apply to this agreement. This means that you cannot claim any legal rights to stay on once the tenancy has ended and a court order says you must leave. The landlord giving a section-21 notice must give at least two months' notice, in writing. For more information, you should consult a housing advice centre, solicitor or citizens advice bureau who will tell you what this means.

4 We will let the property to you (individually and together) and only you and

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will be allowed to live there.

5 No children are allowed to live in the property without our permission, in writing (which we will not unreasonably withhold).

6 No animals are allowed in the property without our permission, in writing (which we will not unreasonably withhold). We can withdraw this permission if we have a good reason.

7 You have to pay a deposit of p £ (If none is due insert nil) to us. We are a member of the Tenancy Deposit Scheme (TDS). We will hold the deposit. as stakeholder (this means we cannot deal with the deposit otherwise than as agreed with you, as decided by adjudication or a court, or as provided for under this agreement, or under the rules of the TDS). You will not receive interest on the deposit. Any interest earned will belong to us.

You will get the deposit back when this agreement ends and you leave the property, as long as you have kept to all the agreements and conditions and you have paid all the rent and bills for the property. If you do not do so, we may take from your deposit:

- any rent, or other money you owe us which we have told you about and which is still unpaid after the end of the tenancy;
- any unpaid utility bills (electricity, gas, water, phone) or other similar sums or council tax for the property for which you are responsible;
- reasonable compensation if you have broken any of your agreements, including those relating to cleaning the property or the furniture or fixtures; or
- the reasonable cost of making good or compensating us for any damage to the property or the furniture or fixtures or anything else for which you may be responsible which is not caused by fair wear and tear. This does not include any damage covered by our insurance policy (except for any insurance excess) or any damage resulting from our failure to carry out any repairs for which we are responsible. We will make allowances for the age and condition of any item as at the start of the tenancy.

8 At the end of the tenancy

- We must tell you as soon as possible after end of the tenancy if we propose to take any amount from the deposit. If there is no dispute about the deposit, we will keep or repay the deposit according to any deductions we have agreed with you and the terms of this agreement. We will pay the deposit or any balance of it within 10 working days of you and us agreeing how the deposit is to be divided up.
- If you plan to dispute any of the amounts which we think are due to us from the deposit you should tell us in writing as soon as possible after we notify you of the proposed deductions.

- If the matter is not settled we or you can ask the TDS Independent Case Examiner (ICE) to decide on the matter. Everyone involved in the dispute must co-operate with the ICEs adjudicator.
- Your and our right to take legal action in the county court is not affected by these conditions.
- For joint tenants the ICE may divide any award equally between the tenants who are involved in the dispute, unless you tell the TDS otherwise in writing.
- For joint tenants at least one must agree to adjudication

9 We will keep the deposit until you have produced satisfactory proof that you have paid for the utility bills (electricity, gas, water and phone) for the property. If you fail to provide proof, we may pay any charges you owe and claim these from you.

10 You cannot use the deposit to pay rent under this agreement.

11 If there is more than one of us, the landlord who is the member of the TDS is our representative to deal with the deposit on our behalf (jointly and individually).

12 If you owe rent or any other money you must pay under the agreement, you will have to pay interest on this amount from the date that it should have been paid. The interest rate is 3% above the base rate used by the Royal Bank of Scotland. This rate may apply before, as well as after, a court judgment has been made against you, depending on the terms of the court judgment.

13 We may keep keys to the property.

14 We may remove, store, sell or otherwise get rid of any furniture or goods which you refuse to remove or fail to remove from the property at the end of the tenancy. You will be responsible for all reasonable costs which we may have because of this. We are entitled to take the costs and any money you owe us from any money made from selling the furniture or goods.

15 You must pay our administration fee of for entering into this tenancy. (If none is due insert nil)

16 If there is shared access to the property you are entitled to use the shared entrance, stairways, halls, landings and so on to the property but we may come on to the property if this is necessary to access other parts of the building where your property is located.

B You must do the following.

1 Pay rent on the days and in the way we have agreed.

2 Pay our reasonable costs for sending reminder letters. These will be for each reminder.

3 Pay our reasonable costs for any cheque that does not clear or any unpaid direct debit or debit- or credit-card or standing-order payment. These will be each time this happens.

4 Keep the inside of the property in at least as good a condition as it was when the tenancy started (apart from fair wear and tear). Also, at the end of the tenancy you must leave all furniture and fixtures in the rooms or places they were in at the beginning of the tenancy.

5 Repair any damage that you have done deliberately or that was caused by the neglect or carelessness of you or anyone else living in or visiting the property. This includes repairing damage caused in this way to the property and, if it applies, the building in which the property is located and any shared access, replacing any broken glass in windows and repairing or replacing any damaged furniture, fittings and installations. If you do not repair the damage you are responsible for, we can claim the reasonable cost of making good this damage or we may give you written notice asking you to repair the damage within a reasonable period of time, depending on the repairs that need to be done. If you fail to do this within the period of notice given, we may then enter the property (after giving you at least 24 hours' notice, in writing) and carry out the work. You will have to pay us for the reasonable cost of this work.

6 Pay for all electricity, gas and phone, water and council tax bills relating to the property that apply during the tenancy.

7 Take reasonable precautions to prevent frost or similar damage to the property. If the property is going to be empty overnight or for more than 12 hours when the weather is likely to be cold, you must leave enough heating on to prevent the water system freezing, or turn off the water supply at the main stopcock and open all the other water taps and valves in the property to drain the tanks of hot and cold water.

8 Whenever you leave the property unattended, you must lock all the doors and windows and put the burglar alarm on (if there is one). You should tell us if the property is going to be empty for more than seven days in a row.

9 If you give us notice that you are going to leave the property before this agreement has ended, you must pay our reasonable costs for reletting the property and pay the rent until a new tenant moves in. We do not have to take the property or the tenancy back from you early unless we want to do so.

10 Allow us or our agents to come into the property at all reasonable hours of the day to inspect the condition of the property, to carry out repairs or to do other work which we must carry out by law. We will give you at least 24 hours' written notice if we are going to enter the property. You must let us enter the property immediately if there is an emergency.

11 Tell us about any repairs or faults that we are responsible for in the structure or outside of the property, in any installation or, if it applies, in the shared areas.

- 12 Park vehicles in your garage (if there is one) or on your parking space only, and without causing an obstruction.
- 13 Pay the reasonable costs for replacing locks if you fail to return any key.
- 14 Pay any reasonable cost for getting replacement keys.
- 15 Allow possible new tenants and buyers to look at the property (on at least 24 hours' written notice) during the tenancy.
- 16 Be jointly and individually responsible for paying all the rent you have to pay under this agreement and keep to all the terms of this agreement.
- 17 Defrost the fridge when necessary. You will be responsible for the reasonable cost of making good any damage that is caused because you have not done this.
- 18 Be responsible for looking after the garden. You must keep it tidy and cut any grass regularly, but you do not have to improve the garden.
- 19 Pay our reasonable charges (including our costs) for preparing and checking any inventory or condition schedule at the beginning and end of the tenancy.
- 20 At the end of the tenancy, leave the property and our fixtures and fittings in as good a condition as at the start of the tenancy (apart from fair wear and tear) and free from rubbish.
- 21 Pay the reasonable legal and related costs which we have to pay in connection with (i) recovering possession of the property (ii) recovery of unpaid rent or other money payable under this agreement or (iii) steps taken if you fail to comply with the terms of this agreement (including such costs for any attempts by us to do so).

C You must not do the following.

- 1 Alter or add anything to the outside or structure of the property, or the furniture, fixtures and household belongings that are on the list that you and we signed. You must not bring into the property any furniture, fixtures or household belongings which do not meet the Furniture and Furnishings (Fire) (Safety) Regulations. You can get information about these regulations from your local Trading Standards office.
- 2 Anything which may be a nuisance or annoy us or the neighbours. You must not play any radio, CD, record player, television or similar equipment or musical instrument in a way that will cause a nuisance, annoy the neighbours or be heard outside the property between 11 pm and 7.30 am.
- 3 Bring bicycles, motorcycles, and prams into the property without our permission, in writing (which we will not unreasonably withhold).
- 4 Bring any furniture into the property without our permission, in writing (which we will not unreasonably withhold).
- 5 Tamper with any fire precautions.
- 6 Hang pictures or posters on the walls without our permission, in writing (which we will not unreasonably withhold).
- 7 Use BluTack or any similar type of adhesive on the walls.
- 8 Sublet the property or any part of it, or give up the property or any part of it to someone else.
- 9 Transfer the tenancy to someone else without our permission, in writing (which we will not unreasonably withhold).
- 10 Carry on any profession, trade or business in the property.
- 11 Display any permanent notice on the property.
- 12 Use the property as anything other than a private home.
- 13 Block, or allow guests to block, any of the shared areas, if this applies.
- 14 Dry washing inside the property, except in a ventilated room suitable for such purposes.
- 15 Use any paraffin or portable gas heater.
- 16 Anything which breaks the terms of any lease under which we own the property so long as a copy of the lease (or the relevant terms) has already been given to you.

D We agree to do the following.

- 1 Keep the property insured against fire and other usual comprehensive risks as long as insurance cover is available on reasonable terms, except for any policy excess.
- 2 Let you have free access to the steps, entrance hall, stairs and all shared areas, if this applies.
- 3 Be responsible for servicing and maintaining any gas heating system and making sure that all gas appliances in the property are checked each year by an engineer registered with Gas Safe, in line with the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998.
- 4 Be responsible for making sure that any furniture we provide keeps to the Furniture and Furnishings (Fire) (Safety) Regulations.
- 5 Give you back any part of the rent that you have paid for any period that the property could not be lived in because of fire or any other damage that we are insured for.
- 6 Keep the structure and outside of the property in good repair.
- 7 Keep the gas, water, electricity, space-heating and water-heating installations in good repair and proper working order.
- 8 Refund any rent you have paid which relates to a rental period which starts after the tenancy ends.

- E** If we need to serve any notice on you, including any notice which the law tells us we must give, we will deliver it by hand or send it to you by first-class post to the property address. This means that notices are served on you once they are put through your letter box, even if you do not receive them because you have moved. **If you give us another address to send notices to, any notice served at that address will be valid, if it is posted by first-class post or left at that address.**

If you need to serve any notice on us, you must deliver it by hand or send it by post to the following address.

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This address may change.

F We may repossess the property if:

- you fail to pay us rent 14 days after it is due, whether you have been asked for it or not;
- you (or any of you) become bankrupt;
- any of the grounds listed in Schedule 2 of the Housing Act 1988 as amended under the Housing Act 1996 apply (these include not paying rent, breaking a term of the tenancy and causing a nuisance or annoyance); or
- the arrangements for us to repossess the property in section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 apply.

- G** We may repossess the property under Ground 1 in Schedule 2 to the Housing Act 1988 (this applies if we have lived in the property as our only or main home or plan to do so). We may repossess the property under Ground 2 in the same schedule which allows the lender to repossess it.

We need a court order to repossess the property. You should contact a solicitor, citizens advice bureau or legal advice centre, who will tell you what this means.

Our signature:

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Where there are joint tenants, each of you agrees with the other(s) that anyone of them may consent on behalf of all the others to use alternative dispute resolution (adjudication) through a tenancy deposit protection scheme to deal with any dispute about the deposit at the end of the tenancy.

Your signature
(or signatures):

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