

# DECIPHERING THE CLASSIFIEDS



## 2-FLAT OR 3-FLAT

Smaller buildings that are 2 or 3 stories tall. Each apartment in the building typically has its own floor.

## WATER OR APPLIANCES INCL.

In general, these things are included with Chicago apartments.

## HEAT INCL.

Heat included. Whenever possible, especially if you're tight on a budget, heat-included apartments should be at the top of your list. Heating in an apartment can become a huge cost during Chicago's winters.

## CLOSE TO TRANSPORTATION

This is a subjective term and you should take it upon yourself to figure out what this means. How close is close? 1 block? 1 mile? What kind of transportation? Bus? Train?

## GARDEN APARTMENT

An apartment that is mostly below ground level. Less bright than above ground apartments, but usually cheaper.

## COURTYARD BUILDING

Medium sized, U-shaped buildings surrounding a courtyard. A larger building than 2-3 flats, but not necessarily larger units.

## LOOKING FOR LISTINGS

Walking around neighborhoods and looking for "For Rent" signs is a good way to scope out potential apartments but online search engines can help with the hunt. Here are a few of the many websites out there:

[apartmentzone.com](http://apartmentzone.com)  
[apartmentpeople.com](http://apartmentpeople.com)  
[chicagoapartmentfinders.com](http://chicagoapartmentfinders.com)

[zillow.com](http://zillow.com)  
[domu.com](http://domu.com)  
[craigslist.org](http://craigslist.org)

[trulia.com](http://trulia.com)  
[forrent.com](http://forrent.com)



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