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
apartmentpeople.com
chicagoapartmentfinders.com
zillow.com
domu.com
craigslist.org
trulia.com
forrent.com