Comparison of Housing Styles

From our research and community conversations, we created a chart of important features to consider when finding a good housing match. We filled out the chart with an example of what it could look like when thinking about different housing options.

We also learned that housing options also vary, for example, a family home for one person will be different than a family home for another. That's why we encourage people to use the blank version to start a discussion about what these different housing styles would mean for them.

Example Chart	Housing Styles				
Features	**Ownership**	**Rental**	**Family home**	**Community housing**	**Group home**
1. Number of people living together in the home	Low	Medium	Medium	High	High
2. Independence in the home	High	High	Medium	Medium	Low
3. Privacy in the home	High	Medium	Medium	Low	Low
4. Cost of the home	High	Medium	Low	Low	Low
5. House chores and maintenance responsibilities (e.g., cooking, cleaning, lawncare)	High	Medium	Medium	Low	Low
6. Availability of supports (e.g., personal support workers, maintenance staff)	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
7. Availability of amenities (e.g., fitness equipment, gardens, laundry facilities)	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium

Low: ⬤ Medium: ⬤ High: ⬤

Housing styles

Ownership: Individually owning a home or in a form of partnership.

Rental: Renting a home from a landlord, family, or corporation.

Family home: Living in a home owned or rented by family members.

Community housing: Living in a subsidized rental home.

Group home: Living in a home that is supported with staff.

Features

1. **Number of people living together in the home:** With ownership, the person can usually choose how many people will be living in the house. With other types of housing, there will often be more people in the same household space.

2. **Independence in the home:** Group homes typically have the least amount of independence for the person because of more rules in the home and the staffed environment.

3. **Privacy in the home:** Ownership often provides the most privacy because it gives the person more control of the amount of social interaction in the home. Privacy decreases with more people in the home like renting with a roommate or living with family.

4. **Cost of the home:** The cost of the home for the person is often less in a family home or community housing as the housing costs are divided among more people or subsidized by government.

5. **Housing maintenance responsibilities:** When owning or renting a home, there is often more housework and maintenance that the person needs to do themselves, such as cleaning, mowing the lawn, or fixing plumbing. Sometimes these tasks can be done by paid professionals.

6. **Availability of supports:** While the availability of supports can vary in all housing styles, it is usually more accessible in group homes that are staffed or community housing that has support workers checking in. And don't forget the natural supports in a family home.

7. **Availability of amenities:** Amenities such as entertainment rooms, fitness equipment, or outdoor space can vary within the housing styles. However, in community or group settings, they can cost less to maintain and shared with everyone living there.

Comparison of Housing Styles

1. Write that features that are important. The 7 features from the example are included, but space is provided to add more.

2. Fill-in what housing styles are available. For example, ownership, rental, family home, community housing, or group home.

Feel free to be more specific about the housing style.

3. Rate or describe how well each housing style matches with needs and priorities.

Blank version	Housing Styles (E.g., Rental, family home)		
Features			
1. Number of people living together in the home			
2. Independence in the home			
3. Privacy in the home			
4. Cost of the home			
5. House chores and maintenance responsibilities (e.g., cooking, cleaning, lawncare)			
6. Availability of supports (e.g., personal support workers, maintenance staff)			
7. Availability of amenities (e.g., fitness equipment, gardens, laundry facilities)			
Other			
Other			