

# Contract tips

## Contract tips

### **Pay attention to the following before signing a contract**

Rental agreements are usually in Dutch. Be sure to have someone check the contract before you sign it. Some important issues you need to look out for in contracts:

- Can you use the address of the accommodation rented and the rental agreement to register at the municipality of Rotterdam?
- Besides the rent for one or two months in advance, a deposit can be asked for. What are the deposit return conditions?
- A previous tenant may ask for 'overnamekosten' (take-over costs) to compensate for the investment he/she made. You are not obliged to pay such costs.
- Sometimes you are asked to pay 'sleutelgeld' (key money). You do not have to pay this (it is forbidden by law).
- Who is responsible for repairs inside or outside the apartment?
- What is the term of notice in case you want to cancel the contract and does this effect your deposit?
- Are you allowed to have pets? To have guests? To make music?
- Are utilities and services included in the rent (water, gas, etc.)? If not, find out what these costs will amount to on a monthly basis.
- Please bear in mind that if gas, heating and water are included in the rent, this means you will be paying an advance. Will there be a final statement and settlement at the end of your contract period?