

## Housing Size Guidelines

### Refer Applications and Eligibility Chapter

Table 12.1 shows a summary of the Department's Housing Size Guidelines for determining the appropriate number of bedrooms for households.

When determining the appropriate number of bedrooms, the following principles apply to both new and transfer applicants:

- residents 18 years and over are entitled to their own room. They include children aged 18 years and over, grandparents, uncles and aunts
- siblings of different genders are not required to share a bedroom regardless of age
- children of the same gender within a household containing two separate family units are able to share bedrooms (e.g. Adult A + Child 1 and Adult B + Child 2. Child 1 and 2 can share a bedroom if they are the same gender and both under 18 years)
- only single persons are allocated bedsit accommodation
- a bedroom is allocated to each individual in a same sex couple. However, same sex couples may continue to request smaller accommodation
- an application that includes a household member who is under an Assurance of Support is placed on the appropriately-sized waiting list for housing that the household will be eligible for once all members become eligible
- with the exception of a household member under an Assurance of Support, only eligible household members are included for the purposes of calculating housing size/bedroom entitlements
- the eligibility of the whole household is reassessed prior to an offer of housing being made, and also prior to a household signing a lease for a Department property.

*Note: The application of the Housing Size Guidelines may be subject to the discretion of the local offices in managing public housing stock.*

**Table 12.1 – Housing Size Guidelines**

Household Groupings		Minimum no. of rooms per group
Single person or couple		1 bedroom
Resident 18 years and over		1 bedroom
1 child younger than 18 years of age		1 bedroom
2 children under 18 years of age	2 children of same gender	1 bedroom
	1 child of each gender	2 bedrooms
3 children under 18 years of age	3 children of same gender	2 bedrooms
	2 children of one gender and one of the other gender	2 bedrooms
4 children under 18 years of age	same gender	2 bedrooms
	2 children of each gender	2 bedrooms
	3 children of same gender and one of the other gender	3 bedrooms
5 children under 18 years of age	any combination	3 bedrooms
6 children or more under 18 years of age	6 children of the same gender	3 bedrooms
	4 children of same gender and two of the other gender	3 bedrooms
	any other combination	4 bedrooms

To calculate the total number of bedrooms for each household, the number of bedrooms per grouping is added together.

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*Note: In the case of a transfer application that contains ineligible children aged 18 - 24 years; these children are included when determining appropriately sized accommodation for a transfer allocation, as referred to in the **Applications and Eligibility Chapter** of this manual.*

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### Example 1

A couple with four children (son aged 10 and daughters ages 16, 8 and 4) would be eligible for a four-bedroom property.

Groupings	No. of rooms
couple	1 room
1 son aged 10	1 room
3 daughters aged 16, 8 and 4	2 rooms
<b>Total number of bedrooms</b>	4 bedrooms

### Example 2

A group household comprising one couple and two friends aged 18 and 24 would be eligible for a three bedroom property.

Groupings	No. of rooms
couple	1 room
friend aged 18	1 room
friend aged 24	1 room
<b>Total number of bedrooms</b>	3 bedrooms

### Example 3

A household comprising of one couple, a daughter aged 14, and an aunt who is a sponsored migrant, and subject to the Centrelink two year waiting period, would be eligible to be approved to a three bedroom waiting list.

Groupings	No. of rooms
couple	1 room
daughter aged 14	1 room
aunt (sponsored)	*1 rooms
<b>Total number of bedrooms</b>	*3 bedrooms

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*\*Note: This household could only be offered a three-bedroom property once the aunt became eligible.*

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