

## Renting vs Owning : Advantages and drawbacks ?

Which one do (would) you prefer ?

Why might one prefer renting to owning a flat , a car etc...?

Then, at the end of the debate , we laid down the arguments in a kind of table

FOR/ AGAINST OWNING	FOR / AGAINST RENTING
<p>Safety, solidity            You're your own boss / you don't depend on anyone ( if you occupy it of course)</p> <p><b>Long-term investment</b>            To possess, to own (ownership = an asset)            Less danger Usually with real estate market on the rise, it's a safe investment ( sure to return a profit)</p> <p><b>Responsibilities</b> <i>though</i> : maintenance ( to keep it tidy so as to get a good price out of it when you sell it off)</p> <p><b>Constraints</b> (condo(minium)'s rules , urban rules, local/ property taxes etc...)</p> <p><b>Efforts , expenses</b> ( painting, renovating )</p> <p><b>To devote time or money to maintaining this investment (= a commitment, an involvement)</b>            When it is <b>let out</b>, you may have problems for <b>cashing in</b> your rents            Tenants may be <b>unreliable</b> , untidy etc... so there are some risks</p>	<p>You are a <b>tenant</b> : you just occupy and pay a rent</p> <p>It's not permanent, it's transitory, <b>provisional</b> , for an undetermined period of time</p> <p>It gives you more <b>flexibility</b>, you can leave when you want ( a lease or a yearly contract) (To give notice ), and so can travel, move , meet more people : you are not <b>stuck</b> in one place</p> <p>No problems : YOU don't pay for the upkeep , the owner (landlord) pays the bill...</p> <p><i>However,</i>            You don't own anything for good            You don't draw any satisfaction from saving money etc..            You don't make an effort to know your neighbours better for example            You haven't made a real investment and it may be a risk ( jeopardy)...</p>