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## How to Select the Right Senior-Friendly Living Arrangement

When it comes to deciding where you're going to live, you never want to end up with an ill-fitting or uncomfortable home. In your senior years, the decision can be particularly weighty as you search for a place that will support your independence, come what may. [Let's Face It Together](#) offers the following guidance on what you need to know about making the right choice for your circumstances.

### Start Sorting Stuff

If you are like many people, you reached your senior years, looked around at your empty nest, and decided you need to make some changes. You might have ample belongings that accumulated over the years, and if you're aiming for a downsize, [decluttering](#) will be imperative. Even if you stay put, it helps to have less "stuff" to navigate and maintain, but dealing with it can be a pretty challenging process.

To make decluttering simpler, bear in mind a few key points. Keep things you use regularly, items which are highly sentimental, and things you simply can't live without. Toss, donate, or sell other items, and if you're on the fence about something, put it in storage while you mull it over. It'll get it out from underfoot, and sometimes being without it a while helps make your decision.

## Lay of the Land

One of the biggest factors in your decision-making will be current market conditions. To help you move forward, a bit of research into the local housing market will go a long way. Become familiar with what prices similar homes in your area are fetching, what smaller homes cost, and how much most people are putting down when they purchase.

You can also use a tool like a home value estimator to find out your [home's value](#). What you find out can affect your pricing if you elect to sell, and you'll need your home's value if you wish to take out an equity loan. In addition to the value, lenders will also look at your [credit history](#).

You have a lot of information to process, but getting the lay of the land will give you a good starting point.

## Eyes on Upgrades

Whether you end up keeping your home or downsizing, sometimes a handful of changes can make the environment more [safe and accessible](#). Even if you're fully mobile right now, it's a way to ensure you're independent and comfortable throughout the future.

With that in mind, Retirement Living recommends some inexpensive [upgrades](#), such as better lighting, bathroom grab bars, and a ramp at one entryway (found at Home Depot for [less than \\$85](#)). You can also look to make some smart home modifications like smart doorbells and voice-controlled dimming lights and entertainment systems. By making changes now, you'll be ready if you suffer an injury or illness, and you won't need to adjust your home to stay self-sufficient.

## A Helping Hand

If you're already struggling with certain everyday tasks, you might elect to move to an assisted living community. Designed especially for seniors who enjoy their independence but need a helping hand now and then, these [facilities](#) are a great way to reduce your house-related responsibilities, get the help you need, and stay connected with other people. On top of all that, they often provide things like transportation, housekeeping, and [group activities](#). It's a worthwhile option for many seniors' circumstances.

Choosing the right abode for your future can be quite a puzzle, so start your decision-making with some sorting and thinking. Get some insights into the area, consider your finances, and contemplate what environment will be best for your future. Selecting the senior-friendly living arrangement that is best for you can be tough, but with your good planning and arranging, you'll find the optimal solution.