

# **Housing Navigation Quick Guide**

### Jesse Tree Services

Jesse Tree is committed to helping our community maintain or find stable housing to avoid homelessness. Although we cannot guarantee what the results will be, we can guarantee that we will do everything in our abilities to assist you with navigating the housing market and provide support along the way. We do request active participation and communication with our case managers or housing navigators.

### Average Housing Costs Range

County	\$	0 BR \$	1 BR \$	2 BR \$	3 BR \$	4 BR ≑
Ada County	Metro	\$683	\$801	\$1,002	\$1,420	\$1,647
Canyon County	Metro	\$683	\$801	\$1,002	\$1,420	\$1,647
*Average rental costs in Idaho according to						

https://www.rentdata.org/states/idaho/2021

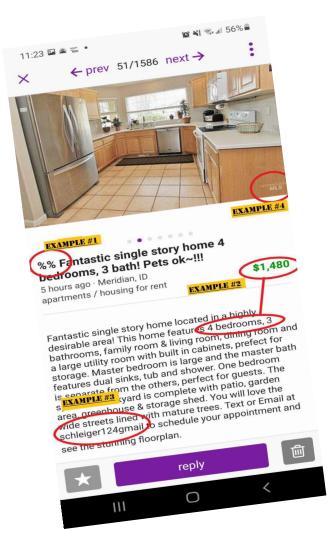


1121 W Miller St Boise ID, 83702 Housing Crisis Line: (208) 383-9486 Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM

## Where to Look?

The rental market is very competitive and hard to navigate. In our experience, once a rental is posted the landlord receives a large amount of inquiries in a short amount of time--so you have to be fast!

We recommend downloading these applications, setting up a profile if the option is available and turning on notifications for what you are looking for in a rental! You can also join Facebook groups or keep an eye out while driving.



Recommended applications are:

Zillow RentalsApartments.comFacebook Marketplace

- Craigslist
  - Trulia
- Zumper
- HotPads
- Rent.com
- Realtor.com Rentals

# TIPS TO AVOID FRAUD

1. Posts with these random symbols tend to be a scam, if a person posts their post they may add an "!" at the end to indicate excitement but not in the beginning.

 A 4 bedroom 3 bath home that looks newly built in Meridian would be listed for more per month. If it seems to be too good to be true, it probably is! So be cautious.
Generally, when a post lists their email address in the post without it being the full

email, it indicates that the post is a scam. Remember, to create a post you list your email so the only reason for them to have you email them this way is because they want YOUR email address to attempt to scam you. The same



1121 W Miller St Boise ID, 83702 Housing Crisis Line: (208) 383-9486 Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM goes for posts that say to respond with your email address.

- 4. Look for watermarks, logos or blurred areas on the photos! Rental agencies put this stamp to help avoid fraud, so if it shows a watermark on the page I recommend googling the property management phone number and inquiring about the rental that way. Another recommendation is if the address is listed to google the address and see if a rental company's post comes up or a post for selling the home. Scammers will copy and paste the local rental agencies description so that it seems like the scammer is local and can describe the area.
- Be skeptical of area codes that are not local, or even if it is a local number and they only want to communicate through text or email, this is something to be leary of.
- 6. At the bottom of this post it says "San Jose" "Downtown" "Target" "Walmart" and has writing in another language. I believe the poster is a scammer that will



instruct someone to send money through Walmart or possibly gift cards. Either way, it is not something you would see in a normal post.

7. If all else fails, or just as an additional action to verify, google the address! Just to verify that it is the correct property management company that you are in contact with and that everything matches, even the monthly rent!

#### **IMPORTANT!**

8. DO NOT SEND MONEY UNTIL YOU SEE THE UNIT AND MEET WITH SOMEONE AT THE UNIT!! Scammers are really convincing! Some will even tell you you can go and look at the unit on your own because they know you can look in the windows and see its vacant... this is because they copied and pasted the information from the actual rental agency who manages the property, so they are confident in telling you to go look.



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