

Housing Types Definitions and Images

Single-Family Home: a structure maintained and used as a single dwelling unit and occupied by a single household.



Townhome/Condominium: a multi-story house in a modern housing development which is attached to one or more similar houses by shared walls.



Small Lot Single-Family Home: built in a small lot subdivision which may provide free-standing single-family homes on lots that are smaller than conventional single-family lots.



Accessory Dwelling Unit: a smaller, independent residential dwelling unit located on the same lot as a stand-alone (i.e., detached) single-family home.



Apartments: a single building that's set up to accommodate more than one household living separately.



Co-Living Units: modern housing where residents with shared interests, intentions, and values share a living space where they're almost like a big family. Residents typically rent out a room within the residence and share common spaces. (Photo courtesy of DIYGenius.com "Co-living for Entrepreneurs: A New Way to Live")



Mixed-Use Housing: Development projects may be classified as "mixed-use" if they provide more than one use or purpose within a shared building or development area. Mixed-use projects may include any combination of housing, office, retail, medical, recreational, commercial or industrial components. Housing units may be located vertically above another use, or horizontally next to another use.



Live/Work Housing: a single unit (e.g., studio, loft, or one bedroom) consisting of both a commercial/office and a residential component that is occupied by the same resident. (Example of a 2-storey Live-Work unit at DUKE Condos. Rendering courtesy of TAS.)



Loft/Studios: A small apartment with an open floor plan. It consists of a single room that combines the bedroom, living room and kitchen spaces with a separate room containing a complete bathroom.



Duplex: A duplex is a multi-family home that has two units in one building. Apartments in a duplex will have their own entrances and often have living spaces upstairs and downstairs. The two units will be similar in size.



Triplex: A triplex is a single building with three apartment units. Like a duplex, these apartment units will have their own entrances, be similar in size and have multiple living spaces.



Garden Apartment or Courtyard: A garden apartment has access to a backyard and almost always is on the ground floor, but sometimes can also be on the basement level. *(Picture courtesy of Moule&Polyzoides Architects and Urbanists, Los Angeles)*



Walk up: An apartment located in a building accessible by stairs only. Buildings with this type of apartment are usually smaller and have fewer tenants.



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