Welcome!

We're MALT, a queer- and trans-affirming intentional community in Malden, with a goal of incorporating as a non-profit to provide permanently affordable housing. We want to live with others who value and prioritize community living, group projects, and political activism. Read more about our current members here.





Available rooms

We currently own two houses on the same block in Malden. Community members have access to their own living space as well as to community spaces across both houses: a garage movie theater, weightlifting gym, workshop with 3D printers, raised-bed garden, office computer, fire pit, community kitchen and dining areas, bike storage, and more.

- 60 Main, 3F, \$800 available September 1 (?)
 - o new photos coming soon!

We communally adjust rent numbers on a yearly cycle. New rent numbers are proposed in September and take effect in January.

We update this listing as rooms become available. If none of the current rooms are a good fit but you'd otherwise be interested, send in an application and we'll keep you in mind for the future. We are open to applications from couples or groups.

Financial expectations

Each house practices communal grocery shopping. In addition to the listed rent, all community members are responsible for their share of bills (managed through Splitwise):

Numbers TBD, have not been adjusted for inflation / recent trends!

60 Main (assuming a 5 person split):

- Groceries & house supplies: ~\$150-\$250/mo per person
- Electric & gas: ~\$115-\$200/mo per person (need to recalculate for 2025, can now be >\$300 in coldest months)
- Internet: ~\$20/mo
- 11 Converse (assuming a 5 person split):
 - Groceries & house supplies: \$150 per month per person
 - All utilities combined (internet, electric, gas/hot water, and oil heat): last year averaged \$95 in warmer months (May–Sep), \$170 in colder months (Oct–Apr) per person. Due to rate hikes in MA, now averaging much higher for 2024-2025.

Community expenses (assuming a 10 person split):

- Community meal expenses: \$10-25/mo per person
- Community event supplies: \$10-25/mo per person

We aim to offer affordable rent for the area, but members are expected to pay both rent and all Splitwise bills in a timely manner, and to communicate promptly if they have any concerns about expenses or their ability to pay.

Community expectations

Everyone living here is expected to maintain a minimum level of cleanliness that includes a tidy kitchen and refrigerator, doing your share of the dishes, keeping personal belongings and messes out of common areas, cleaning up after your pets, and so on.

Residents and their guests are also expected to follow community agreements about pets, limits on substance use (including drinking/smoking/vaping), cleanliness, COVID safety, and so on. Additionally, all residents and guests (including guests at public events) are expected to follow our Code of Conduct.

As we are an intentional community, we also have expectations around participation. You don't have to come to every meeting or event, but **you should expect to spend several hours per week** on communication, organization, and planning duties such as:

- participating in meal planning and grocery shopping
- helping cook and clean up after our house and community dinners
- attending in-person House Meetings and Community Meetings
- weighing in on major decisions like new members or budgeting
- timely responses to discussions in Signal and our community Discord server
- using organizing tools like Google Calendar/Docs/Sheets, when2meets, or chore charts
- planning and attending social events like parties, game nights, potlucks

As a community we intend to see each other often in person, and to have many guests at events like movie screenings, poetry readings, and live music. You may not be a good fit if you will be frequently away from home, plan to keep to your own room, or feel uncomfortable having visitors in common areas.

Building a sustainable community

Residents are not required to take part in home improvement, gardening, or long-term planning (such as financial projections or year-over-year budgeting). However, there are many such opportunities for interested people who want to learn or intend to stay long-term.

We are especially interested in potential anchor members who can help us incorporate as a Community Land Trust and responsibly steward our land and buildings. You may be a good fit if a few of these apply:

- Plan to stay for multiple years, or already have ties to the Malden area
- Previously lived in a co-op or intentional community
- Skilled in home improvement, accounting, or project management
- Experienced with corporate/non-profit governance (minutes, documentation, budgets)
- Organizer of social events (dinner parties, dance/show host, conference organizer/MC)

Location and public transit

- Walking:
 - o 5 minutes away from convenience stores, a hardware store, and restaurants.
 - o 15 to 20 minutes away from grocery stores, the city center, and landmarks
- MBTA access:
 - On routes going to Malden Center, Wellington, and Sullivan
 - Easy access to Malden Center station (Orange Line, Commuter Rail)
 - During regular service, getting to Downtown Crossing is <u>30 to 40 minutes using</u> the bus + Orange Line
- Biking:
 - o 5 minutes from an entrance to the Northern Strand Bike Path.
- Driving:
 - Street parking is available. Driveway shared with other residents.
 - Bi-weekly street sweeping and occasional snow emergency parking restrictions
 - o A few residents have cars and may be able to help others out with rides

Accessibility

60 Main is on a raised lot, and both lot entrances require going up 4 to 8 steps of stairs. Most bedrooms are on the 2nd and 3rd floors (~31 steps). Laundry is in the basement and the main kitchen is on the 2nd floor.

11 Converse is closer to the street level and has a walk-up driveway, plus 4 steps to the 1st floor. Bedrooms are either on the 1st or 2nd floor. Laundry is in the basement and the main kitchen is on the 2nd floor.

Several interior staircases are not up to modern standards and may be challenging for mobility. Additionally, some of the older doorways (particularly in 60 Main) are as narrow as 21 inches by ADA measurement.

Please inquire in your application if you have questions about allergens such as smoking, detergents, perfumes, etc.

Application Process

<u>Fill out the application form here.</u> We'll review your answers as a group, which typically takes about a week. If we think you could be a good fit, you'll have an interview with two or more housemates: preferably in-person, but we can accommodate video too.

We may ask for further interviews, references from prior housemates, a rental application, a co-signer, and/or confirmation of finances. We do not require background checks, security deposits, or first/last month's rent. Leases are optional but can be discussed if desired.