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Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

# Notice claiming the Right to Buy (RTB1 form)

Please use this form if you are a council or housing association tenant and wish to purchase your home under the Right to Buy or Preserved Right to Buy schemes.

#### You could be eligible for a Right to Buy discount if:

- You are a council tenant OR you were a council tenant and were living in your home when it was transferred to your current housing association landlord
- The property is your only or main home
- You have been a public sector tenant (usually a tenant of a council or a housing association) for at least 3 years
- You don't live in sheltered housing or other housing particularly suitable for elderly or disabled people
- Your home is not due to be demolished
- You don't have any legal problems with debt
- You don't have any outstanding possession orders

If you can answer 'yes' to these statements, you are probably eligible but your landlord will need to confirm this.

Remember, buying your home is a big decision. If you haven't done so already, you should get impartial financial and legal advice before buying.

#### You can get free information and advice from:

- Your landlord
- The government's website: www.gov.uk/right-to-buy-buying-your-council-home
- RTB Agent helpline: 0300 123 0913 or enquiry@righttobuyagent.org.uk
- The government's booklets: *Want to make your home your own?* and *Your Right to Buy your Home*
- For legal matters contact your local Citizens Advice Bureau: www.citizensadvice.org.uk
- For budgeting and financial advice, contact the Money Advice Service: 0300 5000; www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk

When you have completed this form, take it or send it by recorded delivery to your landlord. If you take it by hand, ask for a receipt. You should keep a copy of the completed form.

## Part A: The property

#### Note:

You can only claim the Right to Buy discount if you are a tenant of this property.

Give the following details:

Address of the property you wish to buy (including postcode)



Name of your landlord

Please turn the page

## Part B: The tenant(s) and family member(s) wishing to share the Right to Buy

#### Notes:

#### Tenant

- 1. You have the right to be a tenant if your name appears on the tenancy agreement, rent book or rent card. If you are unsure whether you are a tenant, you should check with your landlord.
- 2. You can only claim the Right to Buy if the property is your 'only or main home'. If you are applying to buy jointly with other tenants, only one of you needs to live in the property as your 'only or main home'.
- 3. The agreement of any tenant who does not wish to buy must be obtained before you claim the Right to Buy. They should sign Part F of this notice. Their tenancy will end when you buy the property.

#### **Family member**

- 1. You may share the Right to Buy with up to three family members over the age of 18. They must be a spouse, civil partner or wider family member, but do not have to be tenants themselves. Wider family members must have also lived in the property as their main home for at least the last 12 months.
- 2. If you are unsure whether someone qualifies as a family member for this purpose, you should check with your landlord. You can ask your landlord to allow family members who haven't lived with you for 12 months to buy with you, but they do not have to agree to this.

Fill in the table below for each tenant of the property, and then for any family member(s) who are not tenants but wish to share the Right to Buy with you.

	Title	Full name	Do they wish to buy? (Y/N)	Only/main home? (Y/N)
Tenant 1				
Tenant 2				
Tenant 3				

	Title	Full name	Have they lived in this property for the last 12 months? (Y/N)	Do they wish to buy? (Y/N)	Relationship to tenant (son, etc.)	Only/ main home ? (Y/N)
Family member 1						
Family member 2						
Family member 3						

## Part C: Qualification and discount

#### Note:

You must have been a public sector tenant for at least three years to qualify to buy your home at a discount.

You do not need to have spent the full three years in your present home or with your present landlord. In some circumstances periods which another person (such as your husband, wife or civil partner) has spent as a public sector tenant or armed forces occupier can count towards your qualifying period.

The longer you have been a tenant, the bigger the discount you could be eligible for. Maximum discount levels apply. For details of the current discount levels, please go to https://www.gov.uk/right-to-buy-buying-your-council-home/discounts.

Please give details of:

- Your current tenancy
- Previous tenancies
- Previous tenancies of your spouse/civil partner
- Previous tenancies of your spouse/civil partner's **ex-partner** (if they were married at the time or if they were living together at the time of death)
- If you are claiming a tenancy that was not in your name please tell us your relationship to the tenant of that address
- You should also sign the 'Authority to Disclose' form if you are claiming a previous tenancy with a different landlord so that we can confirm the details.

#### **Current tenancy**

Property address (including postcode)		
Name of tenant 1		
Name of tenant 2		
Name of tenant 3		
Date tenancy started (MM/YY)		
Have you ever been known by any other name?	Yes No	If 'yes' – give details

#### Previous tenancy details

Name of tenant	
Landlord of the property (e.g. name of council/housing association)	
Property address (including postcode)	
Enter date tenancy started (MM/YYYY)	
Enter date tenancy ended (MM/YYYY)	

#### Previous tenancy details

Name of tenant	
Landlord of the property (e.g. name of council/housing association)	
Property address (including postcode)	
Enter date tenancy started (MM/YYYY)	
Enter date tenancy ended (MM/YYYY)	

#### Previous tenancy details

Name of tenant	
Landlord of the property (e.g. name of council/housing association)	
Property address (including postcode)	
Enter date tenancy started (MM/YYYY)	
Enter date tenancy ended (MM/YYYY)	

#### **Previous tenancy details**

Name of tenant	
Landlord of the property (e.g. name of council/housing association)	
Property address (including postcode)	
Enter date tenancy started (MM/YYYY)	
Enter date tenancy ended (MM/YYYY)	

#### Previous tenancy details

Name of tenant	
Landlord of the property (e.g. name of council/housing association)	
Property address (including postcode)	
Enter date tenancy started (MM/YYYY)	
Enter date tenancy ended (MM/YYYY)	

#### Previous tenancy details

Name of tenant	
Landlord of the property (e.g. name of council/housing association)	
Property address (including postcode)	
Enter date tenancy started (MM/YYYY)	
Enter date tenancy ended (MM/YYYY)	

## Authority to disclose

Please complete this form if you have claimed any tenancy with another landlord. It will help us to process your application more quickly.

Name(s):		
Address:		
Postcode:	 Date (DD/MM/YYY):	

I have provided details of all previous tenancies in my application form for the Right to Buy (RTB1) and I give consent for my landlord to request and receive any information relating to any previous tenancy I have claimed towards my qualification criteria and discount entitlement for the Right to Buy.

#### All tenants must sign this form, even if they aren't joining in the Right to Buy

#### **Tenants' signatures:**

Signed (Tenant 1):

Signed (Tenant 2):

Signed (Tenant 3):

#### Family members' signatures:

Signed (Family member 1):

Signed (Family member 2):

Signed (Family member 3):

## Part D: Previous discount

#### Note:

You may get a lower discount if you purchased through Right to Buy on another home (or a different government scheme). The amount of your previous discount, less any amount repaid, will be taken into account when determining the discount value for your current purchase.

Give details below of any previous purchase, at a discount, from a public sector landlord (see the list of public sector landlords at the end of this form) which you or your husband, wife or civil partner, or deceased husband, wife or civil partner, have made. If you are making a joint application, provide details in relation to each purchaser.

Address of the property (including postcode)	Name of your landlord
	Date of purchase (MM/YYYY)
	Name of purchaser(s)
Have you ever repaid any of the discount give	en? Yes 🗌 No 🗌
If 'Yes', how much?	When?
Address of the property (including postcode)	Name of your landlord
	Date of purchase (MM/YYYY)
	Name of purchaser(s)
Have you ever repaid any of the discount give	en? Yes No

Have you ever repaid any of the discount given? Yes

When?

## Part E: Tenants' improvements

#### Note:

When the property is valued, any improvements which you have made will not be included in the valuation. You should use this application form to give details of any improvements you have made which you think may affect the valuation. This could include central heating, double glazing, a fitted kitchen or a new bathroom suite.

The value of improvements will also be ignored where they were carried out by either:

- your predecessor in the same tenancy (including an introductory tenancy at the start of the tenancy); or
- a family member who was a secure or introductory tenant of the property immediately before you under a different tenancy.

Give the following details of any tenants' improvements to the property (tick those that apply):

General decoration	Give details:
Flooring	Give details:
Kitchen fittings	Give details:
Bathroom fittings	Give details:
Garden landscaping	Give details:
Other?	Give details:

## Part F: Signatures

To the best of my/our knowledge and belief the information that has been provided on this form is true, complete and correct. I/we understand it is used in determining my/our eligibility for the Right to Buy.

I/we understand that if I/we give false or misleading information or I/we omit information for the purpose of gaining the Right to Buy, it may be regarded as a criminal offence and action could be taken against me/us including court action and the recovery of property.

Tenant 1:	Tenant 2:
Signature	Signature
Full name	Full name
Date of birth Date (DD/MM/YYYY)	Date of birth Date (DD/MM/YYYY)
Phone number	Phone number
Email address (optional):	Email address (optional):

#### Tenant 3:

Signature	
Full name	
Date of birth	Date (DD/MM/YYYY)
Phone number	
Email address (optional):	

#### Tenant(s) not wishing to buy:

#### Note:

Your tenancy will end if the purchase goes ahead.

#### Signature

		Signature
Full name		
		Full name
Date of birth	Date (DD/MM/YYYY)	
		Date of birth Date (DD/MM/YYYY)
Family member 1 (who is not a tenant but is sharing the Right to Buy):		Family member 2 (who is not a tenant but is sharing the Right to Buy):
Signature		Signature
Full name		Full name

Date of birth

Date (DD/MM/YYYY)

#### Family member 3 (who is not a tenant but is sharing the Right to Buy):

Signature

Full name

Date of birth

Date (DD/MM/YYYY)

Signature	
Full name	
Date of birth	Date (DD/MM/YYYY)

## Before you send your form to your landlord

Before you send this application form to your landlord, make a copy and check that you have completed the following:

- The full address of the property you want to buy (make sure you have included the area where you live and the full postcode).
- The name of your landlord e.g. Nottingham City Council.
- The full names of everyone listed on your tenancy agreement/rent book (e.g. RICK SMITH would probably be RICHARD JAMES SMITH). Make sure you tick the boxes to say whether the property is each tenant's only or principal property, and if they wish to buy. On joint tenancies, not all tenants may wish to buy.
- The full names of any family members who wish to share the Right to Buy with you. They must be a family member, spouse or civil partner. They must have lived in the property as their main home for at least the last 12 months. They must be over 18.
- Details of your current and previous public sector tenancies. Make sure you have completed dates, names of tenants, addresses and name of landlord for your tenancies, those of your spouse/civil partner, those of your former spouse/civil partner who you have divorced or who has died, parents who previously held the tenancy.
- Details of any discount previously received under the Right to Buy or other government home ownership schemes, for example Right to Acquire. You do not need to give details of applications, only purchases.
- Details of any improvements you have made to the property. The improvements may have increased the value of the property. If you disclose them in your application, the value of the improvements will not be included in the valuation of the property so you don't pay twice.
- Signatures of everyone listed on your tenancy agreement/rent book and any family members who wish to share the Right to Buy with you. Make sure all tenants sign in the correct place.
- Have YOU signed the form (Part F)?

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#### STOP – HAVE YOU CHECKED YOU HAVE INCLUDED ALL THE INFORMATION on page 12?

## What happens next?

## Tear this section off and use to keep a note of important dates and information as you go through the process

Please fill this in as you go along:

1. Now you have completed your application, make a copy and take or send it by recorded delivery to your landlord. If you take it in person, don't forget to get a receipt.

Did you get a receipt? Receipt date and number:

- 2. Landlord confirms if you are eligible (RTB 2 form) your landlord has up to 4 weeks from receipt of your application to reply confirming whether you have the Right to Buy, or 8 weeks if you have been with your current landlord for less than 3 years. **My landlord should confirm or deny my eligibility by:**
- 3. Receive an offer your landlord has to send your offer notice within a specific time from the date you receive your RTB2 confirming your eligibility. This is within 8 weeks where your home is freehold (usually houses or bungalows); or within 12 weeks where it is leasehold (usually flats or maisonettes). I should receive my offer notice by:

This offer notice, which is known as a s125 notice, sets out:

- The landlord's valuation of your property\*, your discount, the price you'll pay.
- Any structural problems the landlord knows about.
- Any terms and conditions of the purchase.
- *For leasehold properties only*, the s125 offer notice will also include an estimate of the service charges that you will need to pay over the next 5 years.

\* If you are not happy with your landlord's valuation you have the right to ask for an independent valuation by a District Valuer.

- 4. Decide if you want to go ahead with your Right to Buy you have up to 12 weeks to accept your landlord's offer. It's during this time that you'll need to arrange a mortgage or loan if you need one, get a survey and hire a solicitor. Get independent financial and legal advice (if you haven't already done so) and check you understand all the costs before you sign anything. I need to respond to my landlord's offer by:
- 5. Complete the purchase Once you're happy with your landlord's terms and have arranged how you will pay for your home, carry on and complete your purchase.

It's usually during this time that you pay your stamp duty (if applicable) and finalise and sign the paperwork. Your solicitor will advise you and help with arrangements for these final stages of the process.

#### I could be a homeowner on:

## Public sector landlords (see Parts C and D)

Community councils Local Authorities New town corporations Parish councils Urban development corporations

Housing Action Trusts Registered social landlords (but not co-operative housing associations)

Government departments Ministers of the Crown Secretary of State (in some circumstances)

Area electricity boards Fire and rescue authorities Internal drainage boards National Health Service trusts and foundation trusts Passenger transport executives Police authorities Water authorities

AFRC Institute for Grassland and Animal Production Agricultural and Food Research Council **British Airports Authority British Broadcasting Corporation British Coal Corporation British Gas Corporation** British Railways Board **British Steel Corporation** British Waterways Board Central Electricity Generating Board **Church Commissioners Civil Aviation Authority Coal Authority Electricity Council English Sports Council Environment Agency** Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England Housing Corporation Lake District Special Planning Board Lee Valley Regional Park Authority Medical Research Council National Bus Company Natural England (in some circumstances) Natural Environment Research Council Peak Park Joint Planning Board Post Office Science and Engineering Research Council **Sports Council** 

Transport for London Trinity House (in some circumstances) United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority United Kingdom Sports Council

#### In Wales:

Countryside Council for Wales National Assembly for Wales (in some circumstances) National Library of Wales National Museum of Wales Sports Council for Wales

#### In Scotland:

Councils Development corporations Housing associations (in some circumstances) Water authorities Commissioners of Northern Lighthouses Highlands and Islands Enterprise North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board Scottish Homes Scottish Natural Heritage Scottish Sports Council South of Scotland Electricity Board

#### In Northern Ireland:

District councils Education and Library Boards Registered housing associations Fire Authority for Northern Ireland Northern Ireland Electricity Service Northern Ireland Housing Executive Northern Ireland Policing Board Northern Ireland Transport Holding Company Sports Council for Northern Ireland

#### In respect of housing co-operative agreements

In England and Wales, a local housing authority, new town corporation, or the Development Board for Rural Wales.

In Scotland, a local housing authority.

#### And any predecessor of these landlords