

Massachusetts Lease Non-Renewal Letter

General template, not legal advice. Have a Massachusetts attorney review before use. Last reviewed October 29, 2026.

Before you send this: in most places a landlord may decline to renew a lease at the end of its term. Some states and cities limit that with just cause rules, longer notice for long tenancies, or relocation payments. A non-renewal can never be retaliation for a complaint or repair request, or based on a protected characteristic.

Local just cause or tenant protection rules: _____ (check the rule in Massachusetts)

Retaliation rules in Massachusetts: A termination notice, rent increase or major change in terms within six months after a tenant complains, sues or joins a tenant group is presumed retaliatory, and the tenant can recover one to three months of rent or actual damages, whichever is more. (G.L. c.186, section 18)

Date of letter

Tenant name or names

Property address and unit

City, state and ZIP

Current lease end date

Dear _____ (Tenant name),

This letter is written notice that your lease for the property above will not be renewed. Your lease ends on _____ (Lease end date), and you will need to move out and return all keys by _____ (Move out time) on that date.

This notice is given _____ (Number of days) days before the end of the lease, which meets the notice required by your lease and by Massachusetts law.

Reason (complete only where the law requires a stated reason, or where you choose to give one):
_____ (Reason)

Before you move out

- ☐ Rent remains due through _____ (Last rent date).
- ☐ Schedule a move-out inspection by contacting _____ (Contact name) at _____ (Phone and email). You are welcome to attend.
- ☐ Leave the home clean and empty, with any damage beyond normal wear and tear repaired or reported.
- ☐ Return keys, fobs, remotes and parking passes to _____ (Where to return keys).
- ☐ Send us your forwarding address in writing so we can return your deposit.

Your security deposit

We will return your deposit, less any lawful deductions with an itemized list, within the time required by Massachusetts law.

Deposit return deadline in Massachusetts: The landlord must return the deposit, or the balance after lawful deductions, within 30 days after the tenancy ends. (G.L. c.186, section 15B)

Relocation assistance, if required where you live: _____ (Amount and how it will be paid, or not applicable)

Thank you for your tenancy. Please contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Landlord or agent signature

Printed name

Date

Delivery record

Date delivered

Method

Delivered by

Tracking or reference number

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