

B2 level real estate vocabulary list that you can use for study, writing, or conversation.

Each entry includes a short definition and an example sentence so you can see the word in context.

1. Property Types & Features

Word / Phrase	Definition	Example
detached house	A stand-alone residential building not sharing walls with another house.	<i>They bought a detached house with a garden in the suburbs.</i>
semi-detached house	Two houses joined together by a shared wall.	<i>A semi-detached house is usually cheaper than a fully detached one.</i>
terraced house (or row house)	A house that is part of a continuous row of similar homes sharing side walls.	<i>Terraced houses are common in many European cities.</i>
bungalow	A single-storey house, often with a low-pitch roof.	<i>The bungalow's ground-floor layout makes it ideal for families with young children.</i>
apartment / flat	A self-contained housing unit within a larger building.	<i>She rents a two-bedroom apartment in the city center</i>
studio	A small apartment consisting of a single room that serves as living area, bedroom, and kitchen.	<i>Studios are popular among students because they're affordable.</i>
penthouse	A luxurious top-floor apartment, often with a terrace.	<i>The penthouse offers panoramic views of the skyline.</i>
loft	An open-plan space, originally converted from industrial buildings.	<i>Lofts are prized for their high ceilings and large windows.</i>
duplex	A building divided into two separate living units, either stacked vertically or side-by-side.	<i>The duplex on Maple Street has two distinct entrances.</i>
garden / yard	Outdoor space attached to a residence, used for recreation or planting.	<i>A well-maintained garden adds value to the property.</i>
balcony	A platform extending from a wall of a building, typically on an upper floor.	<i>The balcony provides a nice spot for morning coffee.</i>

2. Buying & Selling

Word / Phrase	Definition	Example
listing	An advertisement or entry describing a property for sale or rent.	<i>The agent posted a new listing for a three-bedroom house.</i>
sale price	The amount of money a property is sold for.	<i>The sale price was higher than the initial asking price.</i>
asking price	The price at which a seller initially offers the property.	<i>The asking price was reduced after a month on the market.</i>
offer	A proposal made by a buyer to purchase a	<i>They submitted an offer of €350,000,</i>

Word / Phrase	Definition	Example
	property at a certain price.	<i>pending inspection.</i>
counter-offer	A response by the seller proposing a different price or terms.	<i>The seller made a counter-offer of €360,000.</i>
closing	The final stage of a property transaction. ownership is transferred.	<i>Closing is scheduled for next Thursday.</i>
deposit	Money paid upfront to secure the purchase; often a percentage of the price.	<i>A 10 % deposit is typical in many markets.</i>
mortgage	A loan taken out to buy property, secured against the property itself.	<i>She obtained a mortgage with a 3 % interest rate.</i>
equity	The difference between the market value of a property and any outstanding loans.	<i>He built equity by paying down his mortgage.</i>
title deed	A legal document proving ownership of a property.	<i>The title deed was transferred at closing.</i>
escrow	A neutral third-party account holding funds until conditions are met.	<i>The buyer's money was held in escrow until the inspection cleared.</i>
inspection	A professional assessment of a property's condition before purchase.	<i>The inspection revealed minor roof repairs were needed.</i>
appraisal	An evaluation of a property's market value, usually done for lenders.	<i>The bank ordered an appraisal to confirm the loan amount.</i>
buyer's broker	A real-estate agent who represents the interests of the buyer.	<i>Her buyer's broker helped negotiate a lower price.</i>
seller's broker	An agent who works on behalf of the property owner.	<i>The seller's broker arranged several viewings.</i>

3. Renting & Leasing

Word / Phrase	Definition	Example
lease	A contract granting temporary possession of a property in exchange for rent.	<i>The lease runs for twelve months, renewable annually.</i>
rent	Periodic payment made by a tenant to occupy a property.	<i>Rent is due on the first of each month.</i>
security deposit	Money paid by a tenant to cover possible damages; usually refundable.	<i>The landlord kept the security deposit after the tenant left.</i>
tenant	A person who occupies a rental property under a lease.	<i>The tenant requested permission to repaint the walls.</i>
landlord	The owner of a rental property who leases it to tenants.	<i>The landlord responded quickly to the maintenance request.</i>
sublet	To rent out a leased property (or part of it) to another party.	<i>She sublet her apartment while studying abroad.</i>
maintenance fee	Regular charge for upkeep of common areas in multi-unit buildings.	<i>The maintenance fee covers cleaning of the lobby and hallway.</i>
notice period	The time a tenant must give before ending a lease.	<i>A 30-day notice period is standard in most contracts.</i>
rental yield	The annual rental income expressed as a percentage of the property's value.	<i>A 5 % rental yield is considered attractive in this market.</i>

4. Finance & Investment

Word / Phrase	Definition	Example
interest rate	The percentage charged on a loan, expressed annually.	<i>The interest rate on his mortgage dropped to 2.75 %.</i>
principal	The original sum of money borrowed or invested, excluding interest.	<i>She paid down the principal of her loan faster than expected.</i>
amortization	Gradual repayment of a loan through regular installments.	<i>Amortization schedules show how much goes toward interest vs. principal.</i>
refinance	Replacing an existing loan with a new one, usually at better terms.	<i>They refinanced to take advantage of lower rates.</i>
capital gains	Profit earned from selling an asset, such as property, for more than its purchase price.	<i>Capital gains tax applies to the profit from the sale.</i>
real-estate investment trust (REIT)	A company that owns, operates, or finances income-producing real estate, allowing investors to buy shares.	<i>Investors often buy REITs for diversified exposure to property markets.</i>
cash flow	The net amount of money moving in and out of an investment property.	<i>Positive cash flow means the rental income exceeds expenses.</i>
buy-to-let	Purchasing a property primarily using borrowed money.	<i>Leveraged buyouts can amplify both profits and risks.</i>
property portfolio	A collection of real-estate assets owned by an individual or company.	<i>Diversifying a property portfolio reduces overall risk.</i>

5. Legal & Regulatory

Word / Phrase	Definition	Example
zoning	Local regulations that dictate how land can be used (residential, commercial, mixed).	<i>Zoning laws prohibit building a shop in that neighborhood.</i>
building permit	Official approval required before construction or major renovation.	<i>They obtained a building permit before adding the extension.</i>
easement	A right for a third party to use part of a property for a specific purpose.	<i>The utility company has an easement for the power lines.</i>
covenant	A binding clause in a property deed restricting certain actions.	<i>The covenant forbids any alterations to the façade.</i>
title insurance	Insurance protecting against losses from defects in a property's title.	<i>Title insurance covered the dispute over an old lien.</i>
foreclosure	Legal process where a lender takes possession of a property after missed payments.	<i>The house went into foreclosure after three years of default.</i>
eviction	Legal removal of a tenant from a rental property.	<i>The landlord initiated eviction due to unpaid rent.</i>
leasehold	Ownership of a property for a fixed term, after which rights revert to the freeholder.	<i>Many flats in the UK are sold as leaseholds.</i>
freehold	Full ownership of both the building and the land it stands on.	<i>A freehold property gives the owner complete control.</i>

6. Marketing & Presentation

Word / Phrase	Definition	Example
curb appeal	The attractiveness of a property when viewed from the street.	<i>Fresh paint and tidy landscaping boosted the curb appeal.</i>
staging	Furnishing and decorating a property to showcase its potential.	<i>Professional staging helped the house sell faster.</i>
open house	An event where a property is shown to prospective buyers without appointments.	<i>The open house attracted dozens of interested parties.</i>
virtual tour	A digital walkthrough of a property, often using 360° photos or video.	<i>The virtual tour allowed overseas buyers to explore the home.</i>
brochure	Printed or digital material providing details and images of a property.	<i>The brochure highlighted the property's energy-efficient features.</i>
floor plan	A scaled diagram showing the layout of rooms and spaces.	<i>The floor plan clarified how the rooms flow together.</i>
price per square metre	Metric used to compare property values; total price divided by area.	<i>The neighborhood averages €3,500 per square meter.</i>
comparative market analysis (CMA)	An assessment of recent sales of similar properties to estimate value.	<i>The agent prepared a CMA to set a realistic asking price.</i>

How to Use This List

- 1.**Study** – Review the definitions and examples, then try creating your own sentences.
- 2.**Flashcards** – Write the word on one side of a card and the definition/example on the other.
- 3.**Practice** – Use the terms in role-plays (e.g., a buyer-seller negotiation) to become comfortable with them.

