



Am I Living In The Right Place For Me?

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Where Is My Place? What Makes a Place “the” Place for Me?

Our vision of place dictates “where” we live and “how” we live. We not only live in a home, we also live in a total environment—family, friends, community, climates, and politics. All of these influence whether or not our place is an inspiring, nurturing one that allows us to express our fullness. So, it is important to give deep thought to our sense of place.

Instructions:

To find out how well your current or future place fits your sense of place, rate each factor with a number from 1 to 7. Consider two different places. Place A and B are where you live now if you live in two places. Place C is where you would consider living in the future. A score of 1 means no fit; 7 is a perfect fit.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF PLACE Examples Listed	Your Place A Your Score 1-7	Your Place B Your Score 1-7	Your Place C Your Score 1-7
Climate: Seasons, days of sunshine vs. rainfall, temperature, air quality, etc.			
Environment: Proximity to mountains, hills, lakes, desert, ocean, rivers, open space, trees, wildlife, cityscape, etc.			
Lifestyle: Architectural styles, choices available, quality, cost/value, aesthetic appeal, etc.			
Health Services: Quality of care available in the area, preventative and specialized care, etc.			
Access: Travel access, public transportation available, easy auto travel, etc.			





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KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF PLACE Examples Listed	Your Place A Your Score 1-7	Your Place B Your Score 1-7	Your Place C Your Score 1-7
Cost of Living: Affordability, tax rates, cost of "quality of life"			
Culture: Variety of things to do, retail choices, ethnic diversity, cultural opportunities, etc.			
Community: Pace of life, congeniality, character of the community, sense of belonging, population density, proximity of family and friends, etc.			
Safety: Civic responsibility, public services, crime rate, feelings of safety, etc.			
Learning: College and university access, community education, lifelong learning activities available, etc.			
Religion and Politics: Religious and racial tolerance, diversity of religious experience available, political climate, etc.			
Leisure: Sports, arts, recreational facilities, nightlife, restaurants, hobbies, special interests, etc.			
Work: Job market, opportunities for part-time and second careers, business services, etc.			
Family and/or Partner Opportunities: Opportunities for your family, spouse, or partner to take part in what the community has to offer, etc.			
Total Score:	Your Place A	Your Place B	Your Place C





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Where Is MY Place?

Instructions:

Total your scores.

Scoring

- 80+: This place fits your definition of "Where you belong." Enjoy your good fortune! (Or think about packing up and moving there.)
- 65-79: There are parts of "Where you belong" missing from this place. Explore ways to make this place more livable.
- 50-64: This is an okay place to live based on your vision of "Where you belong," but what is your Plan B or alternative plan?
- 35-49: This place does not fit your vision of "Where you belong." Decide your timetable and priorities for making changes.
- Under 35: This place is a very poor fit for your vision of "Where you belong." It looks like it is time to consider moving.

What key factors make a place "the" place for you in the future?

