

TERM	WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?
Alerts:	House Sitters receive Alerts when House Sitting job(s) are published that match their specified preferences. Available in either in Real Time or every 24 hours, by Email and/or Twitter. As competition increases for house sitting jobs, critical House Sitters activate, monitor & respond to Alerts promptly.
Avg House Sitting Jobs:	Also known as House Sitting Assignments, House Sitting Listings, refers to the number of Home Owners or Renters who list (publish) their house and pet sitting assignment on a house sitting website.
Home Owners (HO):	A generic term used to describe home owners and renters who invite house sitters to live in their home and/or on their property in their absence.
House Sitters (HS):	A generic term used to describe people who offer their services as a house and/or pet sitter. HS may be singles, couples or a group e.g. families.
ID Verification:	Registered house sitters are given the option to have their ID verified by a third party service provider. Personal details are checked against public databases for the purpose of confirming that a person is who they say they are. The databases are different for each country. All are established and secure sources, usually Government Depts and Credit Agencies.
Join Fee Home Owners:	Some house sitting websites charge HO an annual fee to register. All International (global) house sitting websites charge HO, with the exception of House Carers and MindMyHouse which both offer HO FREE membership. Most Regional (country specific) house sitting websites offer HO FREE membership.
Join Fee House Sitters:	Fee paid by House and Pet Sitters to join a house sitting website and connect with Home Owners who are also registered with the site.
Online Reviews:	Some house sitting platforms offer both HO & HS the ability to review the other party. Most offer 5 Star Reviews based on specific criteria e.g. Communication, Pet Care, Garden Care, etc. Not all house sitting sites offer this feature as they believe Reviews are subjective, not objective, hence are not helpful.
Read Receipt:	Both House Sitter & Home Owner can see when the other party has opened their message.
Renewal Fee Sitters:	Fee paid by House Sitters to renew their membership with a house sitting website.
References External:	Members upload written references from external sources e.g. past home owners, character references, landlord references.
References Internal:	Home Owners write House Sitters an internal reference. Some sites also allow House Sitters to write a reference for the Home Owner. In 2016 Aussie House Sitters introduced two-way References/Reviews. Some platforms have now replicated this feature.
Social Media:	Beware of house sitting websites or house sitting search portals who do not show their face! Social Media is increasingly important in the creation of Trust.

