

ROOMMATE CONSIDERATIONS

WHO WILL YOU LIVE WITH?

Who you live with may be even more important than where you live. Think through the decision of whether you want to have roommates and who your roommates will be.

The following questions to ask yourself and potential roommates may help both parties arrive at an understanding of what being roommates means for both of you.

BEFORE YOU START LOOKING FOR ROOMMATES, ASK YOURSELF:

AGE

- Are you looking for roommates who are the same age/gender as you?

NUMBER

- How many people do you want to share your home with? How many people do you realistically think you can comfortably live with in the space you are looking at?



QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

LIFESTYLE & PRIVACY

- What kind of lifestyle do you plan to lead in your new home? What are your study habits? What is your attitude toward overnight guests, parties, etc.? Do you and your potential roommates have similar personal schedules? Are your views about pets, smoking, drinking and partying similar?
- How will you determine privacy boundaries with your roommates regarding your space, and your time?

RENT

- What are you willing to pay as your share of rent? How are you willing to divide the rent cost (evenly, by room depending on size or if it is shared)?

LENGTH OF TIME

- How long are you planning on living in this home? How long are you planning on living with the same roommates?

RESPONSIBILITY

- Are you willing to put your name on the utility bills, lease and security deposit? Are you willing to have a roommate's name on the utility bills, lease and security deposit?

CHORES

- How much do you care about cleanliness and maintenance? Would you want to designate who is responsible for which chores for upkeep of the home?

SHARING

- Would you rather buy food and supplies (laundry detergent, toiletries) separately or together? What is your preference for sharing possessions including those in common areas, like a computer, TV or couch? What are you willing to contribute (furniture/appliances) to furnish the home?

PETS

- Would you like to have a pet? Would you share responsibility for its care? How many pets are you comfortable living with?

PARKING

- Will you require parking? Might your roommate require parking? Who will pay for it?

EXPECTATIONS OF YOUR ROOMMATE RELATIONSHIP

- Will you want your roommate to just share the financial responsibility and space? Or will you want your roommate to be part of your social life?

QUESTIONS TO ASK POTENTIAL ROOMMATES

LIFESTYLE

- What are your expectations of household noise?
- Are you a night owl or an early bird?
- Is smoking an issue? Would you want certain areas to be off limits or have designated smoking areas?
- What are your views on consumption of alcohol and/or other substances?
- Will guests be stopping by? How frequently?
- Is there a “significant other(s)” that will be stopping over? How often? Will they be staying the night? How often? Are there out of town friends/family that will be visiting? Would you prefer them to stay in a hotel or at the household?

CHORES

- How important is a clean household? How do you want to share the household cleaning and shopping?

SHARING

- Are you OK with roommates borrowing your belongings or would you prefer they did not?
- Do you plan to share any household consumables or keep everything separate?
- What is your level of importance of household and personal security?

PRIVACY

- Do you have any concerns about what people wear in common areas?
- Are you OK with personal property being left in common areas?

EXPECTATIONS OF YOUR ROOMMATE RELATIONSHIP

- What type of relationship are you looking for with your new roommate? Are you looking for someone to hang out with or someone to just share the bills with?