



Who will you live with? Who you live with may be even more important than where so live, so think through the decision of whether to have roommates and who your roommates will be. While your best friend might seem like an obvious choice, be sure that you have considered the challenges that living in close quarters will bring. Living together can strain friendships, especially if you disagree about cleanliness, parties, guests, paying bills, or expectations of each other.

Questions to Ask Yourself <i>as you consider looking for a roommate(s):</i>	Questions to Ask A Potential Roommate <i>as you discuss sharing a place to live:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Age – Are you looking for roommates who are the same age 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? ▪ Lifestyle – 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.? Will conflicts occur with your roommate because of different personal schedules, diets, pets, smoking, drinking, or parties? ▪ 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 if shared/size)? ▪ 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 utilities bill, lease, security deposit? Are you willing to have a roommate’s name on the utilities bill, lease, security deposit? ▪ Chores – Will there be designated chores/responsibilities for upkeep of the home? How much do you care about cleanliness/maintenance? ▪ Sharing – Would you rather buy food and supplies (laundry detergent, toiletries) separately or together? What is your policy for sharing possessions including those in common areas like a computer, TV, 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 – How important is your future parking situation? How much parking is available compared to how many potential roommates have cars? ▪ Privacy – How will you determine boundaries with your roommates, your space, and your time? ▪ 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? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is your level of importance of household and personal security? Do you lock the doors while at home? Are you concerned if your roommate has not been heard from in over 48 hours? ▪ How important is a clean household? How frequently do you expect your roommate to participate in household cleaning? ▪ Are you OK with roommates borrowing your belongings or would you prefer they did not? ▪ Are you OK with personal property being left in common areas? ▪ Do you plan to share any household consumables or keep everything separate? ▪ Are there any concerns about household clothing in common areas? Are you OK with your roommate walking around in his/her underwear? ▪ 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? ▪ Are political or religious outlooks important to you? ▪ What are your expectations of household noise? Are you a night owl or an early bird? ▪ Is smoking an issue? Are certain areas off limits or designated for smoking? ▪ What are your views on consumption of alcohol and/or other substances? ▪ Will family members be stopping by? How frequently and for what length of time? ▪ 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?