

# LIVING WITH A ROOMMATE

## Establish things from the start

Communication is KEY in establishing a healthy relationship with your roommate. Can you sleep with the light on? When can you have visitors until? What are the rules on people sleeping over? When you establish these things from the beginning, it will be easier to have a non-stressful year.

## ADDRESS THINGS DIRECTLY

Throughout the year, things that didn't bother you might start bothering you, and you may get annoyed at your roommate. If there is a problem, address it as soon as possible and address it directly to your roommate. If that doesn't work, talk to your Residential Advisor.

## Be open to change

College is a time to learn, grow, and change. Most of you have probably never shared a room with someone that is not related to you. Take this opportunity to adjust to college life by being open to new things and change. As time goes by, you will learn that things are easier to handle when you are open to change.

## FOOD

When you move in, your roommates and you should establish if you will be splitting the food costs or buying your own food individually. I would recommend buying your own food individually because you never know how much one person will eat compared to you.

## Be respectful

Whether you are friends with your roommate or not, it is important to be respectful of your roommate's things. This means asking before you borrow, use, or take something of your roommate's.

## Set up a cleaning schedule

It is good to establish a cleaning schedule with your roommates. If you're a neat freak like me, you may end up doing more cleaning than your roommates. Take turns and compromise on what tasks each person will do.

## Keep in mind...

Just because you're roommates doesn't mean you have to be best friends. College is a time to meet new people and make your own social circle, which may or may not include your roommate.

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