

Roommate Discussion Items

This document, in conjunction with the roommate agreement, will allow you to get a better understanding of the person/people you will be living with this semester/year. It is important to speak honestly and listen with an open mind, so you can come to agreements on the various topics below. Please discuss what is important to you and how that applies to guests as well. If anything is unclear, be sure to ask for clarification.

The first question on your roommate agreement will ask you to list each resident according to their bed space letter. In some apartments, this is clearly labeled on the bedroom doorframe. If there is no label, or there are two letters, please identify yourselves using the letters A, B, C, D, and E (as many as are applicable). Below is an example:

A – Kiley; B – Dakota; C – Jordan; D - Parker

Items to discuss:

- Decorations in common areas
- Arrangement of furniture
- Hygiene (showering/laundry)
- Level of cleanliness
- Noise level (what is loud?)
- Preferred name and pronouns
- How to confront each other
- Significant others/relationships
- Physical displays of affection/sexual behavior
- Appropriate/offensive language
- Spiritual interests
- Family or cultural traditions/practices
- Alcohol, smoking, drugs, etc.
- Personal values
- Security and privacy
- Personal phone calls

This list of discussion items is not complete. If there is anything else you want to know about your roommates, or anything else you would like to share, it is better to do so sooner rather than later in order to avoid problems later on.

Don't forget to also talk about:

- What are you like when you are upset or angry?
- How do you let others know when you are upset or angry?
- What cheers you up when you are not having a good day?
- When are times you would prefer to be alone?
- How do you act when you are stressed or pressured?
- What are your pet peeves or other things that annoy you?

Who we are and our view of the world is influenced by our background, religion, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, values, etc. You are encouraged to reflect on how these identities affect who you are. Share with each other to the degree that you are comfortable. Understand that these are deeply personal and you should not force your roommate to share items that they are uncomfortable with or share confidential information with others.

If problems occur, you should make all efforts necessary to solve the problems between yourselves. Your Resident Assistant is available to assist you with roommate issues at any time.