

Link through Compromise

It's time to share! At home you probably had your very own room. Now it is going to take some flexibility, consideration, and compromise to form a relationship in a successful roommate link.

The Room is home for both of you. Arrange the room together and when a change is needed consult with your roommate before things are changed.

Think about: Do both of you feel ownership in the room?

Are both of you comfortable with the room?

A very important questions: Is neatness important to one or both of you?

Sharing

Discuss the following:

Will the TV, Microwave, stereo and computer be shared equally no matter who brought the items?

Will personal items, clothes, shoes, sports equipment be shared items?

Talk about what is shared and what is not!

Alarm Clock

This is a hot item to talk about. It can be one of the most conflicting situations.

Will there be only one alarm clock or separate?

When will it be set? Snooze button?

What happens if someone keeps hitting the snooze button or sleeps through the alarm?

Room Guest

Talk about this before it happens.

If friends should drop by while one roommate is studying, how will it be handled?

Do each of you get enough alone time?

Are overnight guest all right? Under what conditions?

If one of you is gone for the weekend, is it okay for a guest to use your bed?

Avoid Gossip

When there's a problem go to the source. Stay away from the ones that gossip.

Agree to Disagree

This means you can stand up for yourself without putting your roommate down. Your values are just as important as his/hers. There will be times when values and/or opinions will lead to disagreement. You may not like what your roommate believes and he/she may not like your beliefs but overall you respect one another's rights.

Safety

Sharing a room comes with responsibility. Discuss locking the room. Carry keys and ID cards. Following policies (illegal activity affects the roommate). When hosting overnight guests, set guidelines. Allowing someone to enter the room when no one's there is asking for trouble. This can have a negative effect on one or both roommates.