

Quick Reflection

Take 5-10 minutes to reflect on previous living situations and the environment in which you thrive. Do this on your own so you are prepared to discuss roommate topics as a group.

Use the checklist below with prompts to guide you. After you have considered the topics below, it's time to complete your roommate agreement!

* Required

1.

Individual Reflection Prompts

Check all that apply.

- What environment are you happiest in? What qualities make your preferred environment? (Ex: A quiet home to relax and study, an energetic apartment with a lot going on, roommates that are responsible and mostly keep to themselves, etc.)
- What is your schedule for the semester/year? Are you in class or co-op?
- Are you generally a night owl or morning person? Is this the same during finals or when on co-op?
- What did you like about past roommates? What did you find annoying?
- What did you argue over with previous roommates? What do you want to have go differently this time?
- What did you and your former roommates enjoy together? (Watching TV, cooking, etc.)
- What is your conflict resolution style? Are you more confrontational, do you avoid conflict, or are you somewhere in the middle?

Apartment Agreement

Roommate agreements are a really important part of learning to live with another person. Learning to live with other people and communicate any issues that arise is an important life skill. Being roommates and being friends are two different things and we want to help your roommate relationship be successful.

2.

Roommate Names: *

Sharing the common spaces, kitchens and bathrooms

A perk to living in an apartment is the addition of a shared kitchen, common space and bathroom. Let's discuss keeping shared spaces clean!

3.

To ensure cleanliness of the shared common spaces, we will: *

Check all that apply.

- Create a chore chart/wheel that assigns a different cleaning task to each roommate
- Agree to clean weekly and assign each week to a different roommate
- Agree to pick up after ourselves
- Agree to clean up our own messes within 24 hours of making the mess

4.

We will use the following schedule for bathroom/shower usage based on our class/co-op schedules:

5.

We are okay with sharing the following things in the common spaces (electronics, kitchen appliances, etc.): *

6.

We are comfortable with sharing food: *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *After the last question in this section, skip to question 8.*
- Maybe *After the last question in this section, skip to question 8.*

7.

Use the space below to add anything else you want to abide by in regards to shared common spaces (bikes, cooking, decorating, etc.): *

Food Organization

Since you selected "No" or "Maybe" in regards to sharing food. Let's set some guidelines!

8.

Provide details on how food will be separated or labeled.

Sharing the Financial Responsibility

Living in an apartment often means a new level of shared financial responsibility. Everyone on the lease is jointly liable to pay rent. In addition to monthly rent, you will want to consider utilities (electricity, gas, cable/internet) and other shared expenses.

9.

If we share the financial responsibility of utilities, our plan to split it is (Example: each putting a utility service in our name) : *

10.

Apartments require shared materials, such as toilet paper, hand soap, dish soap, sponges, cleaning products, etc. Our plan to evenly distribute the financial responsibility of buying these items is: *

11.

Use this space to add any other agreements made regarding shared financial responsibility:

Guests and Noise

Everyone has different preferences for when, and how often, they prefer to have friends over. Your lease may also have rules regarding guests. Review it for any specifics.

12.

We will allow overnight guests to sleep in the common areas of our apartment:

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

Sometimes, when cleared by the other roommates

Other: _____

13.

How many nights in a row are we comfortable with having overnight guests stay in our apartment?

14.

Are we all comfortable with having guests of the opposite gender being in the apartment?

15.

Are we all comfortable with having guests of the opposite gender stay overnight?

16.

Are guests allowed to use the shared spaces in general, such as the bathroom, kitchen and common areas?

17.

Are there any specific times of the day when roommates would prefer to have a quiet apartment?

18.

When roommates are sleeping, we will agree to:

Check all that apply.

- Turn the TV volume down
- Utilize headphones instead of playing music/TV out loud
- Turn music low or off
- Turn video game volume low or off
- Have guests follow certain requirements (lower voices, etc.)
- Not have guests over
- Other: _____

Substance Use

We all come from different backgrounds and identities, and because of that, we may view substance use slightly differently. The legal drinking age for alcohol in Massachusetts is 21. Please be aware that Massachusetts has a Social Host Liability law that states that one may NOT furnish alcohol to persons under 21 or allow person under 21 to consume alcohol in the premise they control (ie, your apartment). Check your lease for additional rules regarding hosting gatherings, smoking, and substance use.

19.

We are comfortable with alcohol and tobacco being in our apartment:

Mark only one oval.

- No
- Sometimes
- Yes

20.

We are comfortable with other substances being in our apartment:

Mark only one oval.

- No
- Sometimes
- Yes

21.

We prefer a smoke free residence:

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

22.

Please use this space to elaborate on any agreements you want to make in regards to alcohol, tobacco or other substances:

Communication and Social Media

The most important aspect of this agreement is being able to communicate about your agreed upon expectations later as needed. If there's an issue or someone breaks the agreement, how will we communicate about it?

23.

If we have a disagreement, we agree not to share it on social media or share inappropriate content of the other on social media:

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

24.

When we need to communicate a change to the agreement, or if someone breaks the agreement, we will communicate about it by:

Mark only one oval.

Talking to them face to face

Contacting Off Campus Student Services

Request a mediation through the Office of Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution (OSCCR)

Other: _____

25.

We agree to abide by this roommate agreement

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No