

Tips for Successful Roommate Relations

- Be friendly, accommodating & understanding.
- Discuss living arrangements early even if you are friends.
- Avoid using the “I” in your discussions. Use “what if we” instead of “I want” “I like”
- Respect each other’s need for privacy and peace.
- Do not use your roommate’s property without his/her consent even if you are good friends.
- Do not judge one another based on your backgrounds or religion.
- Give each other some space
- Do not let your roommate feel that only you own the room, you both do own it.
- Do not wait till the problems accumulate before you say something.

MY ROOMMATE IS AN ALIEN?



- Do not panic if you do not know your roommate.
- Your roommate could be feeling the same about you.
- Also, you and your roommate are strangers only until you get to know each other.
- Think of your roommate as a potential lifetime friend.
- Your roommate does not have to be your best friend. If you room with a best friend, you may miss chance of meeting new people.
- Consider that respect and communication are key ingredients for a healthy relationship.
- Take the time to talk and to get to know one another.
- Remember that even roommate friends do disagree.
- Avoid picking on every little detail. Focus on fundamental issues.

What do we do if we disagree?

- Communicate
- Compromise
- Get advice from a reliable authority
- Talk to your Head Resident
- Talk to St. Housing

Remember that room change is the last resort in case of disagreement. Also, it is a long process that will take time.