**Sample House Guidelines**

Moving in with a new roommate is both exciting and anxiety-inducing. Even if the person is a friend and someone you have known for years, living with them changes the relationship. It is important to establish a roommate agreement before moving in. The path to being good roommates is being respectful and by doing what's right by others.

Here are some suggestions on items that roommates and families might discuss when crafting a Roommate Agreement:

1. Practice the Golden Rule
   1. Try and create community through shared outings and occasionally cooking and sharing a meal
   2. Realize you do not have to be best friends
2. Be Considerate

### Always respect shared spaces

* 1. Respect your roommate’s space and privacy
  2. Do not hog the bathroom
  3. Movies, music, and TV (type, volume, etc.)
  4. Let your roommates know beforehand that you will be having a guest(s) over
  5. Don’t use each other’s things without asking
  6. Do not eat your roommate's food

## Ask before you borrow

* 1. Compromise when it comes to setting the room temperature
  2. When you are sick, stay in your room as much as possible

1. Always Communicate
   1. Be honest
   2. Do not gossip
   3. Do not let minor problems become major resentments
   4. Be flexible
2. Create and Follow a Cleaning Schedule
   1. Clean up your own mess
   2. Split the household chores
   3. Take turns with the trash and recycling

### Splurge on a cleaning service if everyone is into it

1. Decide on How to Take Care of Finances
   1. Paying rent
   2. Paying bills
   3. Shared food and household products

### Use apps to easily share household expenses

### Establish safety rules

### Always locking doors

### Smoking policy

* 1. Pet ownership

<https://www.neighbor.com/storage-blog/25-essential-roommate-rules/>

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