

RULES FOR LIVING IN A SHARED APARTMENT

Agreeing on a shared set of rules early on gives everyone the tools for living together and might even be the start of a friendship!

1. Introduce yourself to your roommate, get to know each other. It's much nicer to share a home when you know a little more about the people you're living with.
2. Everyone needs to be patient and flexible – you don't need to become friends, but you need to get along.
3. Be direct and tell each other what you want or should expect when living together. What kind of daily rhythm do you have? What are your expectations for having peace and quiet? If you find that you have very different rhythms, do your best to find a compromise.
4. Agree on the rules for cleaning common areas: what, when, who and how?
5. Do your part to make sure that the apartment is in good condition. Don't expect others to do everything for you.
6. Don't use your roommate's belongings or eat their food without permission. Agree on where everyone should keep their belongings and food. If you feel it's necessary, you can use notes or tape as a reminder when you're getting started. Agree on how to take turns buying shared items, such as toilet paper, cleaning supplies and spices.
7. Agree on rules for having guests.
8. If sharing an apartment with someone is proving difficult, don't hesitate to contact TOAS.

Enjoy your shared apartment and student life!