

NDMU RESIDENCE LIFE

ROOMMATE TIPS

GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER

Get to know your roommate by attending on-campus events together, going to see a movie or eating meal together. By setting aside time, you will begin to understand each other better; understanding each other is the first step in building a healthy roommate relationship.

BE PATIENT & GIVE IT TIME

Not everyone can form instant friendships or relationships. Take time to get to know each other. The Residence Life staff suggests giving yourself at least 3 weeks before you decide you cannot live with someone.

BE OPEN MINDED

You and your roommate(s) may be very different. Keep a positive attitude and an open mind; you will discover there is much to be learned from someone whose background, culture, values and interests are different than yours.

COMMUNICATE EXPECTATIONS

In order to avoid frustrations, discuss your expectations with your roommate. Keep in mind you may have to compromise; it is normal for roommates to have different expectations.

BE UNDERSTANDING

Sometimes a roommate may just be having a bad day. Listen to your roommate and be understanding; sometimes listening is the best way to find the root of the problem. Give your roommate the benefit of the doubt before criticizing their actions.

TALK IT OUT

Most problems can be solved with communication. Do not let problems build up. Talk openly and honestly about concerns with your roommate(s). Just remember timing is everything. If you know your roommate is having a bad day, hold off until an optimal opportunity for addressing the situation arises.

GIVE EACH OTHER SPACE

Sharing a room is a big adjustment for many people. Even if you are best friends, always being together may be too much of a good thing.

SCHEDULE STUDY TIMES

Let each other know in advance when important events (papers, projects, tests) are coming up. With advance notice, your roommate may be able to make plans to give you some quiet time.

DON'T STRESS

Not all roommates become best friends, but most naturally learn how to get along with each other. In the unlikely event you have an unbearable living situation, contact your Graduate Residence Coordinator to discuss the room change process.

Adapted from King University



Office of Residence & Commuter Life
Division of Student Life