# **HOW TO LIVE WITH ROOMMATES**

## **ASK YOURSELF**



- How much are you willing to pay for your portion of costs?
- How do you feel about cleanliness, noise level, number of visitors, pets, etc?
- Do you have a backup plan if your roommate(s) unexpectedly move out?

#### FIND YOUR ROOMMATE

- Think of people you could live with comfortably. These may or may not be your best friends at NU. Why do you think you can live together?
- Need an NU roommate? Go to Find a Roommate on our website to view roommate listings or create your own.



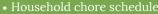
# **ASK YOUR POTENTIAL ROOMMATE**



- How will we divide rent, deposit, and utilities? Will all roommates pay equal amounts?
- Whose name will be on the lease (or will all tenants') and on utility bills?
- Who is responsible for sending payments? What will we share and what will be individual (groceries, cleaning supplies, etc)?
- How long do you plan to live here?
- What is your daily schedule like? When will you
- and talk about habits, preferences, moods, and values
- Get to know each other. Take the time to ask and answer questions - about family, hobbies, academic interests, etc

## **GROUND RULES**









• Locking the doors when leaving

of communication (notes/text/email)

How conflicts will be resolved

# **HOW TO MAKE IT WORK**



- Be open, friendly, and understanding
- Compromise. You are both individuals with different perspectives
- Never assume. Talk about each other's expectations for privacy
- Give each other space. Talk about each other's needs for alone time
- Always ask permission. Don't just borrow the iron or eat the cookies, even if it seems O.K.
- Don't repress feelings. Communicate with your roommate if he or she is doing something that is bothering you
- Appreciate your roommate. Praise, respect, and courtesy are the foundations for any positive relationship
- Check out the Roommate Checklist to read more about house sharing tips

Contact NU Off-Campus Life: 2122 Sheridan Road, Room 233 Evanston, IL 60208 847-491-8430 offcampuslife@northwestern.edu

www.northwestern.edu/offcampus f /NUoffcampuslife



