What 2 Know: Roommate Edition

Presenters: Roy Rosales, Emily Schiro, and Dan Thetford
What to Expect

- Bright futures: Deciding to get a roommate
- Finding your perfect match: Roommate searching at NIU
- Signing a lease: A legal contract
- Smart living: Creating a roommate agreement
- Taking care of business: Practical advice for roommates
- Roommate disputes: How they arise and how to deal with them
- Moving on: Cleaning up, moving out, and getting your deposit back
- Roommate success stories
Deciding to Get a Roommate

- Financial benefits of roommates
- Social benefits of roommates
- Having roommates and sharing responsibilities
Roommate Searching at NIU

- Defining your roommate preferences
- Conducting your search
- Staying flexible
Signing a Lease

- Lease review: reading your lease and getting help with it
- Knowing your obligations and those of your leasing company
# Creating a Roommate Agreement

- Defining roommate obligations and responsibilities

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## SAMPLE ROOMMATE AGREEMENT

1. **Name** | **Rent Per Month** | **Security Deposit Amount** | **Room to be Occupied**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Rent Per Month</th>
<th>Security Deposit Amount</th>
<th>Room to be Occupied</th>
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   If roommates choose to switch bedrooms or pay different amounts of rent at any point, those changes should be noted above. Any roommate who does not pay the amount of rent listed above shall be liable to the landlord or to any roommates who pay any amount due for the defaulting roommate.

   **Address of Rental Unit:**
   Term of Lease: __/__/____ to __/__/____

2. A security deposit has been paid by each roommate in the amount listed above. The roommates will divide the refund of the security deposit according to the amount each tenant originally paid as listed in this agreement. When a specific roommate is clearly responsible for fees and damages to the premises, including but not limited to repairs, utilities, and cleaning costs that roommate will not be held responsible.
Roommate Disputes

- Shirking responsibilities
- Disrespecting others
- General cleanliness
Practical Advice for Roommates

- Coordinating rent payments
- Splitting the utilities
- Sharing the chores
Moving On

- Secure your next living situation
- Notify your leasing company in advance
- Cancel your utilities
- Time your move
- Get that deposit back!