LET'S TALK

A Conversation Series

Living with someone new? No biggie - unless you never actually talk about the stuff that matters. That's where Let's Talk comes in. These convo guides are chill, judgment-free check-ins designed to help you and your roommate vibe better, figure out how you live, communicate, set boundaries, handle awkward stuff, and even talk through drama before it turns into a mess.

"So we're about to move in..."

A conversation about logistics and boundaries.

Shared Stuff Strategy

What items, if any, are we sharing?

Who's bringing what (vacuum, microwave, TV, etc.)?

Do we want a shared list or spreadsheet to track what we have/need?

Should we split the cost on shared items or assign each person to bring certain things?

Move-In Day Logistics

What day/time are you planning to move in?

Should we want to coordinate schedules so we're not all showing up at once? If so, who gets to show up first and when?

Do you need help moving, or do you have support?

Who can I expect to be around on moving day?

Boundaries & Shared Spaces

How do we want to divide up shared spaces?

Are there any shared spaces that need ground rules?

Do you want labels for personal food/items, or are we on the honor system?

Any pet peeves we should know about?

What's your decor style?

Are there any furniture or decorations that are a hard no or must-have?

Are we cool with decorating shared spaces together or keeping it neutral?

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LET'S TALK

"So, what's your vibe?"

A getting-to-know-you convo before moving in or early on.



I'M LIVIN' MY BEST LIFE

What's your ideal chill night in?

How do you like to spend your weekends?

Do you need alone time to recharge, or are you more of a people-person?



LIFE BE LIFIN'

How do you usually deal with stress?

If you seem stressed, do you want me to check in or give space?

How will I know that you are not okay and need help?





WHAT'S IT GIVING?

What does "clean" mean to you? (Be honest, no judgment)

Are you an early bird or a night owl?

What's your noise tolerance? *Music, calls, gaming, etc.*

WHO'S ALL GONNA BE HERE?



Is it okay if I have friends/partners over?

How often would it feel reasonable to have guests over?

How much notice would you need?

What would annoy you most about a guest?

If one of us needs privacy/the room to ourselves, how should we communicate that need?

Do you enjoy hosting parties or gatherings with more than 1 or 2 people? How often?

LET'S TALK

"So, who's doing what?"

A discussion about how to take care of shared space.

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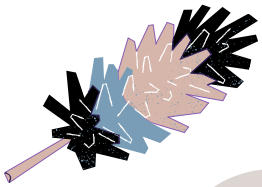
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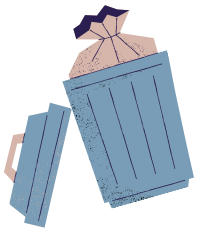
What does "clean" mean to you? What does "dirty" mean to you?



How should we split up cleaning the space? Chore chart? Trade-off?

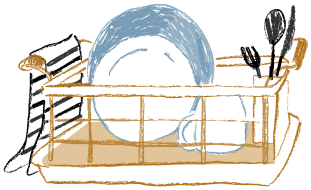


Trash, dishes, bathroom - what's your threshold before it gets gross?



If someone's schedule or capacity changes and they can't keep up with the plan, how should they bring it up so the other person knows what is going on and we can adjust?

Who will buy the cleaning supplies? What cleaning products or scents do we need to avoid?



What happens if someone forgets to clean or it gets gross? Can we remind each other? How should we go about doing that?

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"So, we're beefin'."

Conflict happens. Here are ways to talk about it.

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It feels tense, but you are ready to bring it up.

Something has felt off lately. I have noticed that _____.

What do you need from me right now — space, a convo, or a solution?

They are venting or seem upset, and you are not sure what they need.

There seems to have been a miscommunication.

I might've misunderstood. Can you help me see it from your side? What do you want me to know?

How can we fix this in a way that feels fair to both of us?

You are ready to move forward.

You are willing to make a change/find a solution.

What do you need from me at this moment, or what would signal to you that I am willing to work this out?

What's one thing I could do differently moving forward?

It's time to set a boundary to help avoid the same conflict in the future.

If you need me to fix or change something, I want you to tell me by...

Want support thinking about how to best navigate these conversations, request a Conflict Resolution consultation today!

resolutioncenter.colostate.edu

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"So... I feel weird bringing this up..."

Ways we want to communicate when things are tough.

If something small is bugging me (dishes, noise, etc.), how would you want me to bring it up?

What is something someone did right when talking to you about a problem?

How do you like to receive feedback? Is it different if it is positive versus constructive feedback?

What could I say during a conversation that would upset or offend you?

If we have issues, should we talk right away or process? How will I know when you're ready to talk?

If things get bad, can we "reset"? Should we plan check-ins, or do we wait until things feel off?

When we need to get something off our chest, how should we do that?

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"So, what's the exit plan?"

Not every rooming situation lasts forever & goodbyes can be hard. Have these precautionary discussions early on, just in case.

My deal breakers are...

What would "it's not working" look like to you?
What are your dealbreakers?

If we need to part ways...

If one of us starts to feel like we need to move out, what's the best way to bring that up?

Would you want a heads-up before someone starts looking for a new place or talking to housing about moving out?

What would it look like for us to part ways in a respectful manner?

How much notice would we ideally give each other?

Should we talk to an RA or housing first, or try to work it out on our own?

If one person moves out, how do we split shared stuff, furniture, cleaning supplies, etc.?

Help me, help you.

What if one of us is struggling with our mental health —how do we separate needing space from just needing support?

Because no one wants to be blindsided.

Let's set a "check-in point" later in the semester to see how things are going. When should I check in?

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BOUNDARIES AND COMMUNICATION

Ways we can show respect to one another by understanding each other's boundaries and communication preferences.

BRINGING IT UP

When I need to talk about things, how should I bring it up? Text, DM, snap, sticky note, or talking to you? Does it make a difference if it's something personal vs something casual?

CHECKING IN

Should we put check-ins on our calendar to have a regularly scheduled pulse check, or are we both comfortable bringing stuff up as it happens?

KEEP IT RESPECTFUL

Are there any topics or subjects that are off limits? If so, what are they?

HARD NO

What are your hard boundaries when it comes to communication?

EX: not cursing, using sarcasm, etc.

Any other hard nos?

TIME TO COOL OFF?

When someone feels a type of way, should we talk about it in the moment or give each other time to process? How will I know you are ready to talk about it?

AVOIDING THE AWKWARD

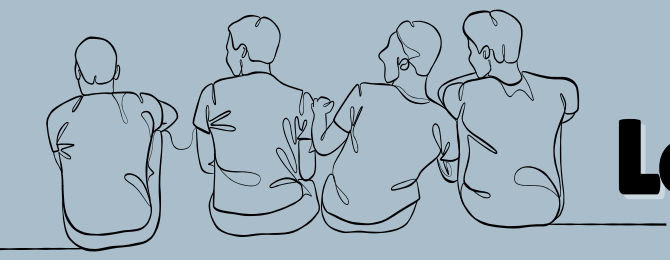
How do I know when you've become passive-aggressive or if I've pushed your buttons?

What are your “green flags” in a roommate situationship? What about roommate deal breakers?

If we’re just more of a roommate vibe, how do we still remain friendly and respectful?

If we start hanging out with our partner or friends more and aren’t around a lot, how do we check in?

What are your hopes when it comes to us being friends or just roommates?



Let's Talk



“So, are we friends or just roommates?”

Setting realistic social expectations, defining comfort levels, and exploring dynamics.

How would it feel if one of us wanted more space and the other wanted to hang out a lot?

If we have plans with other friends, how do we deal with that? Do we always invite the other person or agree it's okay to do things separately?

Should we plan to make consistent plans? Lunches or dinners, study sessions, watching a show?

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"So...this is awkward"

All the awkward conversations we shouldn't avoid having.

What if your parent texts me and asks where or how you are?

What if you are on the phone or having a serious conversation with a guest? Should I leave the space?

What if you have food that is moldy or expired? Can I take care of it or should I let you know?

What if I notice you haven't been yourself lately? How do I bring it up?

What if either of us have a real embarrassing moment? Should we address it or let it go? If we want to address it, how would we bring it up?

What if I am in a pinch and I use or borrow something of yours without asking? How and when should I bring it up?

Is there anything that I need to know about your eating, sleeping, or living habits?

What cultural, familial, or religious needs do you have as it relates to our space?

What if you post a picture of me that I'd rather not have online—would you mind removing it if I asked?

What if I feel uncomfortable about your friends being in our space when you're not here? How can I communicate that to you?

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