Roommate Information Sheet

Why should I share an apartment or house?

- Two bedroom apartments or group homes are often much more affordable
- Residents often have their own bedrooms and share all other facilities (including utility costs) with others
- Remember to be objective in your search for a roommate - Best friends are not always the best roommates!

Initial Steps to Finding Accommodations: A Good Fit for You and Your Roommate

- After you assemble a potential group of roommates, discuss ideal living situations before you begin looking for a home or apartment to share.
- Discuss the basics first:
  - Size of accommodation
  - Location of accommodation
  - Total rent that can be handled both individually and by the group
  - Furnished vs. unfurnished accommodation
- We recommend that the following issues be discussed, in an honest and open conversation, to avoid any problems that may occur while in the living situation:
  - Will food be purchased and meals be prepared collectively or individually?
  - How will the responsibility of purchasing and preparing food be assigned?
  - How will general housekeeping responsibilities be shared or assigned, (i.e., cleaning the kitchen, the bathroom, removing garbage)?
What are individual needs and demands for cleanliness?

How will the home be furnished? How will future home purchases be shared and used?

How will payment of rent and utilities be divided? Who will be responsible for mailing in various payments?

How will responsibility be shared for property damage?

What are individual privacy needs and expectations of respect for the belongings of others within the group?

What are guest and entertaining policies that everyone is comfortable with, (particularly with large parties and overnight guests)?

What are smoking or non-smoking arrangements?

What are pet policies, (taking into account personal preferences and physical effects such as allergies and asthma conditions)?

Can't find a Roommate?

Try these websites to find one!

*Please note: Here are a few websites to help locate roommates. This information is created as a guide for students. The ISO and GW are not responsible for content not associated with the George Washington University. Always use caution when searching for housing or roommates online.


http://www.roommateclick.com  http://washingtondc.craigslist.org

Post a message on GW off-campus message boards at http://gwoffcampus.com, or visit the GW International Student Housing Facebook page