

# Roommate Discussion GUIDE

Welcome to the UW-Superior Residence Halls! Communication is important in a good relationship with your roommate. The goal of this guide is to provide you with information about getting along with that “other person” in your room.

## The Roommate Bill of Rights

Basic rights of a roommate include:

1. The *right* to read and study in one’s own room.
2. The *right* to sleep with as little disturbance as possible.
3. The *right* to expect respect for one’s personal belongings.
4. The *right* to live in a clean environment.
5. The *right* to free access to one’s own room and facilities.
6. The *right* to personal privacy.
7. The *right* to have guests, with respect to roommate’s rights
8. The *right* to be free of intimidation, physical and/or emotional harm.
9. The *right* to expect reasonable cooperation in the use of “room-shared” appliances (telephone, refrigerator, etc.) and a commitment to honor agreed upon payment procedures.
10. The *right* to speak openly on ideas, opinions, and grievances; Residence Life staff are available for assistance in settling conflicts.

## Personal Belongings

For each item listed, choose Yes, No, or Ask for the use of your personal belongings. Share your answers with each other and discuss your reasoning. Add your own items at the list’s end.

	Yes	No	Ask
Stereo/Radio	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TV	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Computer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hairdryer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Detergents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cooking Utensils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DVD Player	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Video Games	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Books	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
School Supplies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Money	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mail	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Athletic Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Toiletries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Now that you have reviewed your Bill of Rights and discussed some of the basics, in terms of your personal belongings, it is important to turn your attention to personal lifestyles and preferences.

### Personal Lifestyles

Complete the following section by circling the term or filling in the blank that best describes your lifestyles. Share your answers with your roommate and discuss your lifestyle characteristics.

1. I am a **morning / night** person.
2. I like to study in the **morning / afternoon / night**.
3. I like to go to bed at \_\_\_\_\_.
4. I like to wake up at \_\_\_\_\_.
5. I like to keep the room **clean / fairly clean / sloppy**.
6. I am \_\_\_\_\_.
7. I like \_\_\_\_\_.

### Personal Preferences

Share your personal preferences on the following.

1. How do you feel about visitors (male/female) in the room?  
Can these visitors (male/female) stay overnight and if so, when? (when roommate is not present, any night, only when there is no class the next day, etc.)
2. How do you feel about alcohol or other drug use?
3. Do you have any health concerns?
4. How concerned are you with academic success (grades/study habits)?
5. Things you enjoy doing in your spare time.
6. What are you like when you are "down" or upset?
7. How do you like other people to respond to you when you are "down" or upset?
8. How do you let people know when you are angry?
9. What things make you happy?

### Enjoy a Great Year!

Keep this guide handy throughout the year and refer to it when you have a disagreement with your roommate. We offer this as a tool to help problem solve any conflicts that you may have with your roommate, as well as a foundation for a mutually respectful and maybe even friendly relationship. Feel free to contact any hall staff if you have questions or concerns throughout the year.

Sincerely,  
Residence Life Staff

UW-Superior



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