



SUGGESTED COMPROMISES IF YOU'RE HAVING TROUBLES WITH YOUR ROOMMATE

Having trouble with your roommate?

When you speak with your Residence Advisor they will ask if you have spoken with your roommate about the issues. If you haven't (yet), they will ask you to do so. It is always best when roommates first speak with each other directly and tactfully, before getting other people involved.

Depending on your issues and their severity, your Residence Advisor will suggest some reasonable and typical compromises that have often proven effective:

Noise:

Daytime noise:

Some daytime noise is reasonable however:

- Set some limits on what is a reasonable level of noise for TV, stereo, etc. Identify the volume level on each.
- Choose to go to the library during the day rather than at other times.

Evening noise:

Quiet hours begin at 9pm in Totem Park and Place Vanier residences and 10pm in Fairview Crescent, Thunderbird, Ritsumeikan-UBC house, Marine Drive, and Walter Gage residences. Some evening noise is typical (TV, talking with friends, entering and exiting the unit) however:

- Decide on appropriate volume levels for TV, music, computer games, etc.
- Roommates could inform one another when they are planning on having friends over so
 - i. they can identify a good time to plan for guests to leave, and

- ii. other roommates may choose other activities during that time.

Computer use (MSN, typing) at night:

- Decide on cut-off times that work for each person.
- Use headphones and earplugs to reduce noise.
- Turn off/down volume on speakers.

Guests:

Discuss and compromise on times and days when guests are permitted to be in the unit.

Suggestions:

- Only on weekends
- Only on weeknights and before 10pm
- Only during the daytime

Cleaning:

- Split up the necessary work and take turns
- Set-up a cleaning schedule and commit to it. Talk about what will happen if someone doesn't follow through.
- Hire someone to clean and divide the bill.
- Have a communal "money bowl" where everyone contributes the same amount and purchases common cleaning supplies.

Use of cooking supplies:

- Buy common foods and split the costs (i.e.: Bread)
- Set limits. Decide which items are communal and which are not.
- Have a communal "money bowl" where everyone contributes the same amount and purchases common cooking supplies.