



# HOW TO MAKE A SHARED HOME HAPPY

With a little effort and understanding, every shared home can be a happy one. It doesn't matter if you've handpicked your housemates, or if you're all strangers. Remember, your Residential Assistants and Warden are on hand for great advice!

## 1. Think ahead

When you first move in together, sit down and talk through your expectations of each other and consider creating 'housemates agreement'. Prepare to compromise – be ready, willing and able to meet your housemates in the middle.

## 2. Day-to-day living

Agree what the shared expectations are of all housemates around noise, tidiness, taking the bins out, cleaning and doing the dishes. Consider a rota – but they only work if everyone agrees to them and sticks with it!



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### 3. Create a kitty

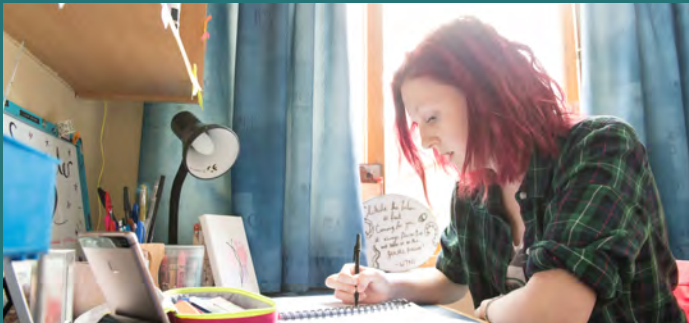
Share the cost of essential household products such as bin bags, toilet roll, cleaning products and milk.

### 4. Eat together

As often as you can. It can help with bonding and it's fun to try new dishes. Take turns cooking for each other, or order a takeaway and eat together.

### 6. Take some alone time

Give yourself some space to relax and unwind by yourself, as often as you need. It's okay to close your door and stay in your room for a while. Your room is your own personal space - find your style and surround yourself with sentimental items to make your room feel homely.



### 5. Guests

It's lovely to meet the friends of your flatmates, but it can be good to set some ground rules on having people over. Make sure everyone knows to give each other reasonable notice if they're going to bring friends home.

### 7. Talk to each other

Throughout your time living together, make sure you keep an open conversation and take time to listen to each other. Make sure everyone is included in the conversation.