



Welcome to DePaul Housing

The Department of Housing Services | offices.depaul.edu/housing

Getting a roommate (or roommates) can be an exciting and challenging process, so read this information to get a right start!

If You Don't Know Your Roommate:

- Upon receiving your roommate(s) assignment, take the opportunity to call or e-mail your roommate to introduce yourself.
- Have an open mind when speaking with your roommate(s) for the first time, and remember that you're moving into new territory. It may take sometime to adjust.
- Be honest about your circumstances and be understanding of what your roommate(s) decides to share.
- Phone or electronic communication limits your ability to fully understand each other. Refrain from judgment until you've met your roommate face-to-face.
- Learn a little about your roommate over the summer: Where is he or she from? What's his or her major? Why did he or she choose DePaul?
- Remember that roommates don't have to be best friends. Determine what you want your relationship to be, then be sure to respectfully express your expectations.
- Be open to compromise. You can go a long way in building a relationship by balancing give-and-take, even before you arrive on campus.

All new residents are required to complete a roommate agreement with their roommates at the beginning of the academic year.

What To Discuss Before You Arrive:

During the summer, take some time to talk about basic expectations, particularly as they relate to moving in to the room:

- Discuss the various move-in dates you and your roommate(s) have been assigned to. Early arrival does not mean, "first come, first served." Wait until all roommate(s) have arrived to make any final decisions on who will have which bed, desk, etc.
- Who will bring what for the room? This is a great way to share the expense of furnishing your room, especially with larger or shared items, such as appliances.
- Also discuss how you will maintain and share those items.
- Talk about who will live where in the room. Does one of you prefer to be in front of the window or air conditioning unit? Assignments are by unit, not by bed or bedroom. You may want to discuss who gets which space, or at least prepare with each other on how you will choose those spaces.
- Start discussing basic expectations. When you arrive, your room will be provided with roommate guides and agreements for each of you to complete. Take some time to review these documents alone, then set up a time to work with your roommates to reach a mutual consensus on the topics provided.

You Have a New Friend Request...

Before connecting with your roommate on a social networking website, consider checking your page for information that may not best reflect who you are. Remember how impactful a first impression can be. Is your page a true reflection of the person you are or want to be seen as? If you choose to use Facebook, Twitter, or another social networking site to connect with your roommate, keep in mind the source of information. If you see something that concerns you, as your roommate about it directly. This will give you a much better sense of who he or she is as a roommate, rather than what is listed on a profile.

Reminder: Roommates and/or room assignments cannot be changed prior to move-in day. We want all of our residents to adjust to living in a residence hall and get to know their roommate(s) before making the choice to request a room change. After the third week of fall quarter those students who would like to change their room assignment can submit a room change request form at the Housing Services' main office. Room changes will be made based on availability and date the request was receiving by our office. Room changes will not be granted for first-year students until all temporary residents receive a permanent space.