



Shared Housing (Home-sharing) #2 Compatibility Checklist



[1]How do you find a compatible person or family with whom to share housing? Carefully! And here are some good steps to help you do that. You want to get to know potential housemates as well as possible as quickly as possible, and with care.

Fill this worksheet out before you meet with anyone, then bring it along when you meet anyone face-to-face – use it to keep yourself honest. Having your ideas in writing will help you focus on the important questions and the understandings you hope to arrive at by the end of your meeting. When meeting a second time use both this and “20 Questions” to move your discussions forward.

This worksheet will help you get to the business at hand, and will, at the least, give you lots to talk about.

A) Personal & Family Traits:

1. I'm used to a home being (check all that apply)

- a pig pen tidy messy
 cluttered but clean "white glove" clean loud and lively
 quiet calm soft music or tv

2. I clean up after myself (or my kids/pets) (check all that apply)

- Immediately once a week seldom only if reminded
 even if it's not mine if it's yours, I'll let it sit 'til it rots
 I'll teach whoever left the mess how to do it themselves next time
 I'm oblivious unless I fall over it
 other

3. I want to be able to smoke in my house yes no only outside

4. I don't want any smoking anywhere near me yes doesn't matter



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5. I'd like to share food in the house yes never sometimes
6. Our / my diet is (circle one): vegetarian omnivore no pork vegan
fast food no sugar no wheat other (describe)
7. I /we eat: a lot of desserts some sweets no sweets
 deal with diabetes or special needs a lot of garlic
8. Pets are wonderful - any type, size, or shape
 bring up issues around allergies - let's talk
 are problematic, OK if small and quiet only
 can't be in the house, with, possibly, the exception of goldfish
 what would not be okay in terms of animal behavior or care?
9. Meals at home are:
 the very best, daily OK, occasionally
 OK, but I like to eat alone best with friends
 sometimes OK to cook with others in the house
 other
10. Alcohol in the house:
 I drink some wine or beer occasionally
 is a must. cannot be tolerated in moderation
 is a problem, since I'm recovering from addiction
 Illegal drugs in the house – discussion is needed
11. My behavior /personality changes when I drink alcohol yes no
When I take prescription / over the counter drugs yes no
12. I have had problems with alcohol or drugs in the past yes no
(describe, or be ready to talk about this)
13. Someone would describe our family's/my health as
 normal rarely sick frequently ill having ongoing problems
14. Mental health issues:
 depression anxiety disorders non-existent other
15. The most important social, political issues to me are:



How might it be for me if my housemate held equally strong and opposing positions?

16. Issues of religion and religious practices are:

important to me don't matter to me good for starting discussions

B) ~~Schedules and Activities:~~

Lots of scheduled activities

Home during the day

Lots of travel

Home weekends home evenings

Some company hate company Lots of company

My style of living is: hectic busy flexible empty unpredictable undependable
 relaxed

If there are children: I have custody of them (sexes & ages)

there is shared custody Life is focused on them

If there are pets: they are small & confined (breed: _____)

well-behaved (or) wild-crazy As/more important as people

C) Relationships:

1. I have a boyfriend/girlfriend I like to have over _____ times a week

We usually have dinner, watch TV, talk

I like to have her/him spend the night _____ times a week/month

I'm not in a relationship right now but

I won't be in one, and can't live with someone who is

2. I invite the following people over occasionally or regularly:

3. Overnight guests:

OK with advance notice Not in my space OK if occasional not in the bathroom when I'm around

What defines that they've moved in?

What has to be agreed upon ahead of time for this to occur?

4. I have left a domestic violence situation. yes no How long ago? _____



I feel that there is still danger __yes __no

5. I presently have a restraining or protection order against someone __yes __no

6. I'd like a housemate to be: (check all that apply)

1. ____just a reliable person with whom to share housing
2. ____someone who understands & can share responsibilities
3. ____an extended part of the family
4. ____my friend (and one to my kids, if I have them)

7. I think the relationship can change over time: __yes __no

8. I hope that this arrangement will last _____(how long?)

9. I think that this is:

____my next adventure __a last resort __interesting to explore

D) Communication: Answer yes or no to each

1. If there's conflict:

__I like to talk about things right away, staying away from blame

__I take some time to figure out how I feel

__I try to fix things on my own

__I talk with others, outside of the situation, first

__I want to move out and on

__I want to figure out who's at fault

__I shut down

__Other

2. I would like to:

__have regular house meetings

__think all who are living in the house should participate

__think "agreeing to disagree" can be viable

__want to be kept informed about what's going on in others' lives

__to listen to complaints without getting defensive, even if they're not presented tactfully

3. I hate being asked "is something wrong?" __yes __no. If there is, I'll say so ____yes __no

4. I hate the feeling that something is amiss, but the other person isn't saying anything and even denies it ____yes __no

5. If I ask, but am told nothing's wrong, I put it out of my mind __yes __no



6. I like to write notes __yes __no

7. What really pushes my buttons is:

8. It's frustrating when an adult:

9. It's frustrating when a child:

10. It's frustrating when a pet:

E) Other:

1. ___I have a current drivers license __yes __no

2. ___I have a vehicle. Type? _____ I will / won't share

3. ___I have current insurance __yes __no

4. The disadvantages of homesharing for me are:

5. The advantages of homesharing for me are:

6. If I own the home, I will try to make the other feel welcome by:

7. If I am moving into someone's home, I will make myself feel at home and help them feel comfortable by:

8. When things get broken, how will I respond when it's my favorite ___?

9. If I want to get/receive service instead of paying, what could I receive? Offer

10. I would want to end the arrangement if:

11. How might prejudice limit the people I'm willing to consider?

The ideal homeshare would be:

Resources:

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[1] <https://personalsafetynets.org/file/265>