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You've made the decision, it's time to move in together. You are emotionally ready, which is the most important thing, but now you have to actually get down to the practicalities of it. A bit of planning now can save a lot of arguing down the line.

## Take stock of what you both have

So you may be merging your book collections but you need to work out what you're going to keep and what you're going to need to put elsewhere. Do you really need five TVs, four sofas and two toasters? Sit down and make a list of what you need and then see who already has it. If there's more than one item then choose the one that makes the most sense. For example, if one of you has the larger, more modern TV, you'll want to keep that one over smaller, out of date one.

Once you know what you need and what you have, you can start getting rid of any extras. If there are a lot of items you want to keep, but there's no room for, a [self storage facility](#) can be a good stopgap.

## Set up a household budget

Couples often end up arguing about money. When it comes to household expenses, sit down, and work out exactly how much running your home will cost. Put this money aside, every month into a separate account and let all your bills come out of that account.

By doing it this way, you're each contributing and the bills are covered, but you're also maintaining your financial independence too.

## Don't make the other person feel like a lodger

You're not always going to be [moving into a new place together](#). If one person is moving into the other's property, then it's important that they aren't made to feel like they're simply sleeping there, it has to become their home too. There are some simple ways around this, like [redecorating together](#) so that both you and your partner get input on what your home feels like. Don't just clean out a few drawers for their clothes, or a bit of space in the wardrobe for them. Buy extra storage or empty everything out and start reorganizing together.

## Give each other some space

Moving in with someone you love has so many benefits but after the initial novelty of being around each other 24/7 has subsided, you both need to have [your own space](#) from time to time. Don't expect your partner to instinctively know what that means. If you need to disappear for an hour or two to read a book or have a relaxing bath, just tell them. Chances are they will be glad of a bit of space too. It doesn't mean that you don't want to be around each other.

So if you're thinking of taking the plunge and moving in together, good luck. There are so many amazing positives to look forward to.