

Discovery Interview Questions (Results Regarding Roommate Experience)

- Can you tell me about your experience with college housing and roommates?
 - Setting ground rules was helpful
 - Having a roommate helped my productivity because I felt like I had to keep my schedule accountable but it was really hard because we had different lifestyles.
- What are some of the biggest challenges you've faced when it comes to housing and living arrangements on campus? Off-campus?
 - Can't tell people straight up what they do wrong, harder if you know them
- Was there anything unexpected that you faced during your living/housing arrangements?
 - Problems arise with living habits that you don't expect until u live with them
 - Hard to mediate problems with suitemates, that weren't expected at first
 - Direct communication really important
 - Trying to be open-minded and feedback on habits that may not be liked
- How do you typically communicate and collaborate with your roommates regarding shared responsibilities and household tasks? Have there been any challenges?
 - Hard to confront close friend if they are doing something wrong
 - Should have divided responsibilities beforehand, but hard if you're not confrontational
 - For now, we just have a group chat and we always text each other a week before if we're gonna have an event in the house
 - Ask if we can use each other's things
 - No challenges so far and everything was solved through communication
- If you were to search for roommates again, how would you have proceeded or currently proceed?
 - Find someone not that close with, but able to have conversations about living habits
 - I would make sure someone I know who has a similar lifestyle
- What requirements do you think should be in a matching system for roommates?
- What are your plans for future housing or living arrangements, based on your previous experiences?
- In your opinion, what aspects of college housing and roommate experiences could be improved or enhanced?
 - More in-depth system of finding a good roommate
- How do you think technology and digital solutions could contribute to improving the housing and roommate experience for college students?
 - communication is definitely one, where people can text each other

Leila

- What year are you? Sophomore
- **Can you tell me about your experience with college housing and roommates?**
 - Random roommate selection freshman year
 - Never had problems, but never got along
 - Things that didn't like but couldn't fix
 - Loud breather, trouble falling asleep
 - Group 6 girls, only one that wasn't friends with any of them
 - Sophomore year is better, once you can select people that you know
 - List interests between people in roommate matching,
 - Maybe personality?
 - Extraverted/introverted
 - Never had a conversation with roommate, no similar interests
- **What are some of the biggest challenges you've faced when it comes to housing and living arrangements on campus?**
 - Hates roommates that take a long time to shower
 - Can't tell people straight up what they do wrong, harder if you know them
 - No trouble with using bathroom/using bathroom because wakes early/sleeps early
- **Was there anything unexpected? During the housing/living situations that you faced?**
 - Ask Dora for unexpected?
 - Weird to get used to living with others, if you had own room before
 - Awkward when you guys don't go to bed, when to turn off lights?
 - Goodnight?
- **How do you typically communicate and collaborate with your roommates regarding shared responsibilities and household tasks?**
 - If something is a big problem/easily fixed will tell
 - Roommates didn't know how to throw away sanitary products, would not fix issues when brought up
 - Roommates
- **What requirements do you think should be in a matching system for roommates?**
 - Be like Tinder, who I am like and who I'm looking for
 - Percent match %
 - Catfished??
- **Have you encountered any challenges with communication or coordination among roommates, and if so, how have you addressed them?**
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- **In your opinion, what aspects of college housing and roommate experiences could be improved or enhanced?**
 - Have more stuff to connect with people before school starts, for freshman to build friendships
 - Roommate Speed dating on Zoom

- Wouldn't have done these because freshman may not care as much about roommates
- **How do you think technology and digital solutions could contribute to improving the housing and roommate experience for college students?**
 - Private schools may not know anybody coming into college
 - Random roommate
 - More in-depth system of finding a good roommate
- **Off-campus**
 - Signing a lease
 - Needs to pay for electricity
 - Someone leaving lights on
 - Sharing a space when off-campus way more responsibility
 - Can't call on-campus maintenance

Dora Roommate Story: (Maybe interview her too)

- Had to move out of Umrath
- Drink every night, stay up super late and be super loud
 - Couldn't get any sleep
- Alarms throughout the night to get up and do work
- Keep lights on even when she sleep, so Dora would turn off
- Eat food without permission
- Danforth suitemate was from Spain, butt naked walking around talking to people

Sharon

- **What year are you?**
 - Sophomore
- **Can you tell me about your experience with college housing and roommates?**
 - Pick favorite type of housing, best type of process that you can get
 - Lottery systems are better, first-come first serve is more stressful
 - Housing pipeline took away
 - Have to start figuring out off campus once u get to junior/senior year
 - Good on campus options for juniors and seniors, esp financial aid
 - Wish they had more housing help sessions, more information on how to reach out for rent
 - All very new processes for college students to rent house
 - Got lucky with roommates, go completely random and still got good roommates
 - Setting ground rules was helpful
 - Establishing curfew on weekdays
 - No loud noises/talking in common space after 12
 - Good for lighter sleepers
 - Restroom is important to consider
 - Ask for consent when borrowing items, and lending
- **What are some of the biggest challenges you've faced when it comes to housing and living arrangements on campus? Off-campus?**
 - Figuring out what to do with those that are studying abroad
 - WashU more transparent with how to live w those study abroad
 - Where to find helpful informations
 - Don't want to take chances w random
 - Considering rent in St, Louis, staying in campus housing to live in WashU
 - Considers convenient location
- **Was there anything unexpected that you faced during your living/housing arrangements?**
 - Close friends
 - Problems arise with living habits that you don't expect until u live with them
 - Adaptability with other habits
 - Hard to mediate problems with suitemates, that weren't expected at first
 - Direct communication really important
 - Trying to be open-minded and feedback on habits that may not be liked
- **How do you typically communicate and collaborate with your roommates regarding shared responsibilities and household tasks? Have there been any challenges?**
 - Responsibilities are delegated so that one roommate doesn't feel like they're doing it more
 - Take it out when we see

- Don't leave dishes uncleaned for over a day
- Don't leave food in common room for more than 24 hours
- Being considerate of shared living space
- **If you were to search for roommates again, how would you have proceeded or currently proceed?**
 - Freshman year was random
 - Hard to gauge what someone is really like
 - Questionnaires and surveys help
 - Talking through social media
 - Open to making new friends that you normally wouldn't talk to
 - Still 50/50 no matter what, if you don't know them
 - Freshman was both slightly messier
 - Night owl, consider sleeping habits that may affect sleep schedules
 - Class times! Can affect sleeping as well
- **What requirements do you think should be in a matching system for roommates?**
 - Current questions work well
 - Social habits
 - Going-out, likes to bring people to room, introverted
 - Varying degrees of comfortability
- **In your opinion, what aspects of college housing and roommate experiences could be improved or enhanced?**
 - Public announcement
 - More emails on housing
 - Emails, important deadlines
 - Reminders
 - Especially for off-campus living, when to sign a lease, etc.
- **How do you think technology and digital solutions could contribute to improving the housing and roommate experience for college students?**
 - More frequent emails and messages when nearing housing cycle
 - Be more proactive
 - No housing crisis at WashU, don't have to worry about if you have housing to live in on top of other concerns

Richard

- **What year are you?**
 - Senior
- **Can you tell me about your experience with college housing and roommates?**
 - WashU housing is quite good, even if you get a traditional
 - Give to you random
 - Once you leave off-campus, you can't come back
 - Left during freshman year cuz of COVID, couldn't come back during junior year
 - Put on waitlist until July
 - Not good, because leases run out
 - Didn't have a roommate bc of COVID, wasn't able to use the roommate that was found before school
 - Found roommate through mutuals for soph
 - Live alone b/c of study abroad junior year
- **What are some of the biggest challenges you've faced when it comes to housing and living arrangements on campus? Off-campus?**
 - Only lived on campus for one year, and many restrictions
 - Couldn't be in same room with someone not in ur suite, limited social interactions
 - WUSA groups are floors, didn't have much connection
 - How do you even start process of living off-campus
 - Where are the good places? Avoid the bad places?
 - Furniture - can be expensive
 - Pricing, location, safety, really have to understand
- Was there anything unexpected that you faced during your living/housing arrangements?
- **How do you typically communicate and collaborate with your roommates regarding shared responsibilities and household tasks? Have there been any challenges?**
 - Sophomore year, roommate had a partner so didn't spend a lot of time in room
 - Don't live w best friend
 - Hard to confront if they are doing something wrong
 - Should have divided responsibilities beforehand, but hard if you're not confrontational
- **If you were to search for roommates again, how would you have proceeded or currently proceed?**
 - Pretty
 - Senior year would live alone, quite independent and non-confrontational
 - Not that close with, but able to have conversations about living habits
 - Recommendations from other friends
 - Tinder for roommate finding
- **What requirements do you think should be in a matching system for roommates?**
 - Do you party a lot?
 - Could bring into own place
 - How often are you home?

- Clash in privacy, nice to have someone who are home at the same time or not depending on preference
- Cleanliness
 - People lie
- Do you study at home?
- Light sleeper?
- Do you have a car?
- Animals/pets?
- **What are your plans for future housing or living arrangements, based on your previous experiences?**
 - Living in DC with his friend, not that close but close enough
 - Same company
 - Both want a cat
 - Talk about responsibilities, what they want
 - Separate bathrooms
 - Tour a lot of different places, esp during college
- **In your opinion, what aspects of college housing and roommate experiences could be improved or enhanced?**
 - Not necessarily the best w accommodations
 - Roommate assignments still feels like people are matched random
 - Not genuine
 - Roommate mixers?
 - Separate ones for more affinity groups
- **How do you think technology and digital solutions could contribute to improving the housing and roommate experience for college students?**
 - Digital footprint tells a lot about a person
 - Create algorithms that can match people together

Ahana

- **What year are you?**
 - Junior
- **Can you tell me about your experience with college housing and roommates?**
 - Stressful bc you have to start early
 - Barely a sophomore before you have to start looking for apartments
 - Went to websites and signed up for house tours
 - Coordinated with roommates since it was open in class hours
- **What are some of the biggest challenges you've faced when it comes to housing and living arrangements on campus? Off-campus?**
 - When it comes to on-campus housing, the housing block depends on luck
 - For sophomore year, I had a 6 person block and that limited our options
 - When the time came, this block size made it difficult to find housing

 - Off campus bc we didn't know that we had to start early
 - Things happened so quick and we had to make quick decisions
 - We didn't get to explore all the options
- **How do you typically communicate and collaborate with your roommates regarding shared responsibilities and household tasks? Have there been any challenges?**
 - we have a discord and there's one for rules. If someone doesn't do chores, then we just take a picture and let the people know.
 - Rules don't always get followed but the important things do
 - **If you were to search for roommates again, how would you have proceeded or currently proceed?**
 - Get adopted by friend group that did all the work
 - If she had to find again, she'll probably ask her friends
- **What requirements do you think should be in a matching system for roommates?**
 - Same year bc if you were a senior and someone is moving out, then it would be difficult to consider
 - Gender
 - Price
- **What are your plans for future housing or living arrangements, based on your previous experiences?**
 - My previous experience worked out so I will continue to live with the same people
 - If it's like another school/different friend group -> probably post on social media like Instagram or Reddit because many people do that
- **In your opinion, what aspects of college housing and roommate experiences could be improved or enhanced?**
 - In campus: shouldn't be based on luck, more control
 - Out of campus: timeline is too early
- **How do you think technology and digital solutions could contribute to improving the housing and roommate experience for college students?**

- Finding better roommates with similar personalities
- People who are looking for the same range of pricing

Jenny

- **What year are you?**
 - Junior
- **Can you tell me about your experience with college housing and roommates?**
 - Housing was pretty good because the first two years I got a dorm and the RAs were willing to accommodate
 - Having a roommate helped my productivity because I felt like I had to keep my schedule accountable but it was really hard because we had different lifestyles.
- **What are some of the biggest challenges you've faced when it comes to housing and living arrangements on campus? Off-campus?**
 - Cornell student body is increasing so it's hard to find a on campus housing option
 - off campus: pretty competitive off campus because student tend to flop to the good and affordable options and it seems like cornell student population is huge
- **How do you typically communicate and collaborate with your roommates regarding shared responsibilities and household tasks? Have there been any challenges?**
 - For now, we just have a group chat and we always text each other a week before if we're gonna have an event in the house
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- **If you were to search for roommates again, how would you have proceeded or currently proceed?**
 - I would make sure someone I know who has a similar lifestyle
- **What requirements do you think should be in a matching system for roommates?**
 - Major -> same workload -> similar sleeping schedule
- **What are your plans for future housing or living arrangements, based on your previous experiences?**
 - I made sure that I roomed with people who are in the same field of study
 - And who I know will have similar schedules
- **In your opinion, what aspects of college housing and roommate experiences could be improved or enhanced?**
 - Have an orientation before finding roommates because it seems different when you meet the person in real
- **How do you think technology and digital solutions could contribute to improving the housing and roommate experience for college students?**
 - communication is definitely one, where people can text each other
 - Meeting people before they come to campus through zoom events instead of in person meet ups for the first time

Jenny

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