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you're positively ready to subject yourself to these risks, or unless you too enjoy this leisure activity, opt for the sober roomie.

Although these are all useful and largely effective guidelines for choosing a living partner, the absolute most important aspect to look for in a roommate is respect. This doesn't only mean cleaning your side of the room once a month and turning the music down a notch during study hours. It involves a genuine mutual concern for one another's well-being. Be absolutely certain to select a roommate who will consider your feelings, needs, beliefs, and wishes, and then grant them the same treatment. Make a pact up front with whomever you decide to room with to always be totally honest about any and

all conflicts, complaints, and problems. If you both stick to this pledge, your relationship will remain free of sudden, seemingly unprovoked fights which have actually been brewing for months in the form of small annoyances and suppressed quibbles. A little kindness and compromise can work wonders for most roommate conflicts.

If, after reading this informative list of roommate selection

tips, you're still confused as to who you should choose as your roommate for next year, don't sweat it. Even if your residential fate is decided for you by the powers that be, just keep in mind that whether you and your roommate are like peanut butter and jelly or like orange juice and

toothpaste, if respect is present, then bipartisan survival is possible. [C]

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