Things to discuss with your potential roommate in advance

This worksheet helps you establish guidelines that will lead to a successful roommate relationship.

Basics. Discuss:
• Who will be on the lease (or will all parties)?
• Whose name will be on the utility/phone/cable/internet account?
• How many people will live in the unit?
• How long will each individual remain residents of the unit?
• Who will occupy what areas of the apartment?
• Does anyone plan to sublet? When?
• How will disputes be resolved?

Lifestyle. Discuss:
• What kinds of leisure activities might you want to do in the apartment?
• What are your feelings about the use of tobacco, alcohol or other drugs?
• What kinds of guidelines should we have for guests and/or significant others?
• How will we arrange/organize cleaning responsibilities? How about cooking?
• What items and appliances can be shared? What cannot?
• What is your typical daily schedule (work, study, sleep, eat)?
• What kind of music/TV do you enjoy?
• What furniture do you have?
• How many computers will we have? How do we determine internet usage?
• Will we have any pets?
• Will there be special rules regarding mid-term or final exam time periods?

Financial issues. Discuss:
• How financially stable are you? What are your income sources or other debts?
• How will bill payment be arranged for the deposit, rent, utilities, and other expenses?
• What is our monthly deadline for communicating with each other about bills?
• How will we track our apartment payments and expenses?