

Making Your Housing Plan:

Considering Roommates

Searching for Roommates:

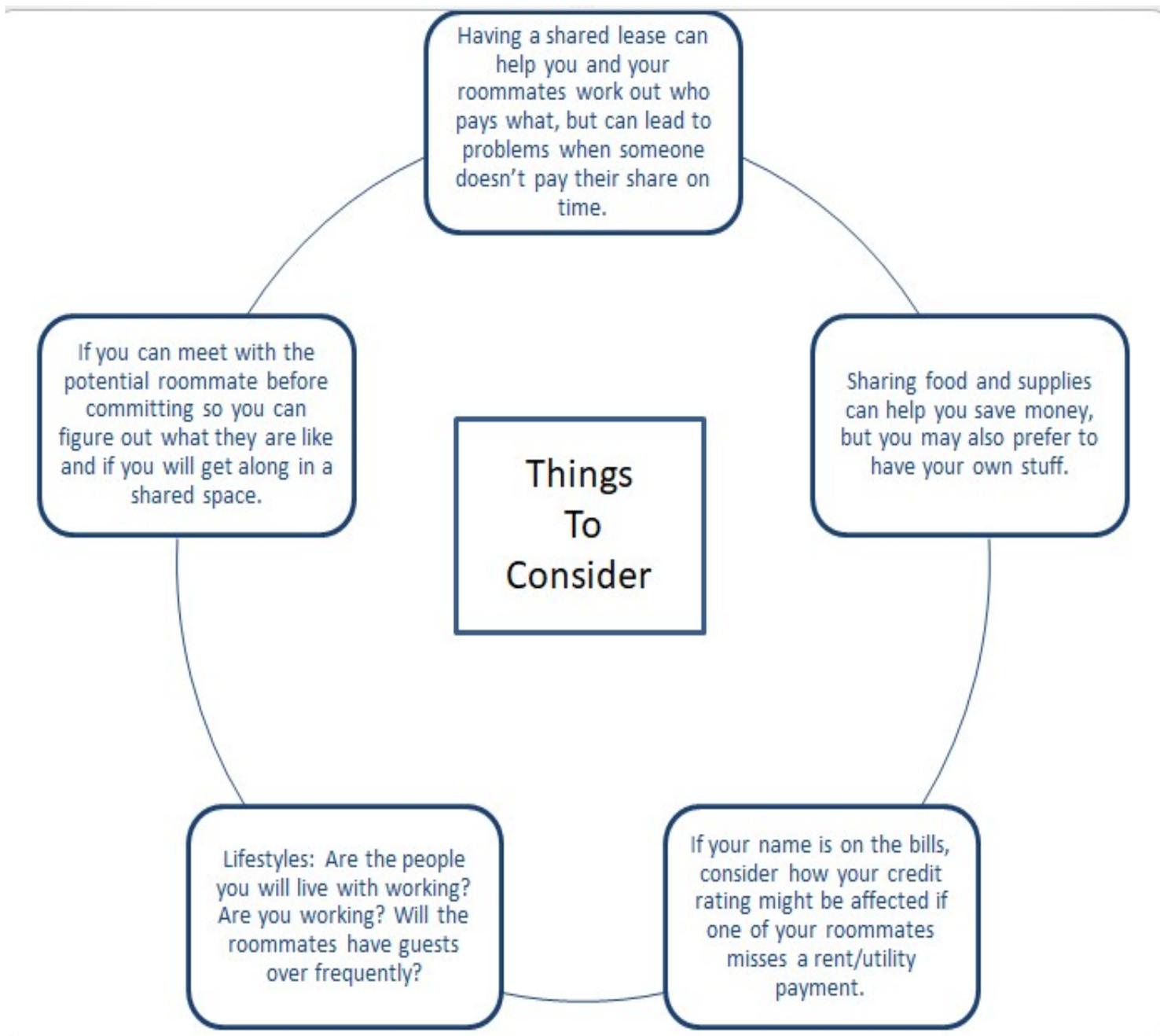
Sharing a place with others can help cut down on costs or make renting more affordable. For others, roommates make renting more enjoyable, or helps them keep on top of housework; some find roommates are frustrating and make renting harder. It depends on who you're renting with and what your needs are.

If you're searching for roommates, you want to find people who meet those needs.

Here are some questions it might be useful to ask or consider during your search:

Money	Housework	Social
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -How will rent be divided? -How reliably will the roommate pay their share (especially if you have a shared lease)? -Whose name will be listed on the bills? -Will everyone pay the landlord together or individually? -What happens if one of the roommates misses rent? -Will everyone buy their own food and supplies? Which stuff will be shared? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -How important is a clean house to them? Do you have a similar idea of what a clean house looks like? -How will the cleaning be shared? -Will everyone cook their own food or will the cooking be shared? -Is everyone okay with pets? -Does anyone have any severe allergies? -How will storage be shared? -How will common space be decorated? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Do they drive? How will parking spaces be shared? -Do they smoke? Will smoking be allowed? Where? -Do they drink or do drugs? Are you okay with that? Where and when will it be allowed? -Do you keep similar schedules? -How much noise are you okay with? -Will parties be okay? -What will the rules be for having people over? Can people stay overnight?

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Your Housing Search Prep Checklist

	Do you have it?	Do you need it?
ID that proves citizenship (i.e. birth certificate)		
ID with photo and address (i.e. photo card or driver's license)		
Social Insurance Number (SIN)		
Current address		
Credit check		
Phone access		
Internet access		
Professional-sounding email address		
Housing references		
Bank account		
Debit/credit card		
Canada Revenue Agency account (for tax stuff and credit access)		
Direct deposit with CRA		
Tenant insurance		
Personal budget draft		
Pet licenses (if necessary)		