

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

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1. Love—Genuine love and concern for one another invites the spirit, fosters unity, and strengthens obedience in the apartment.
  2. Shared responsibility—Roommates share responsibility for creating an atmosphere of righteous living and obedience in the apartment.
  3. Mutual respect—Roommates live the Golden Rule and value one another as sons and daughters of God.
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PRINCIPLE THREE: MUTUAL RESPECT | AN EXPRESSION OF CHRIST-LIKE LIVING

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*ROOMMATES VALUE AND  
RESPECT ONE ANOTHER.*

“Respect is an expression of our sense of universal brotherhood or sisterhood—a testimony of our membership in the human family. It acknowledges our common humanity and shows our reverence for children of God. The gospel teaches us that we are to hold the same esteem for others that we hold for ourselves (see D&C 38: 25; Matt. 7:12). Acting disrespectfully suggests we do not esteem the other person as ourselves. True respect, then, comes as we develop our ability to love our brothers and sisters as ourselves.

“Underlying principles of respect that were once commonplace in society have increasingly given way to unkind behavior.

“While the gospel teaches us to be respectful toward others without qualification, sometimes we may find ourselves falling into rationalizations about being disrespectful based on their behavior. A person who causes a problem is often seen as *warranting* disrespectful treatment. This kind of thinking shifts responsibility for our behavior to others. It makes us think that our disrespectful acts are someone else’s fault.

“Gossip, [an] everyday form of disrespect, is incompatible with love. What we say about people in their absence should be what we would say to them, with love, if they were present.

“*Empathy*. Feeling empathy for others is a symptom of respectful behavior, while feeling unsympathetic is a symptom of disrespectful acts. To ridicule others is to deny our brotherhood and sisterhood.

“*Care*. Respect is also synonymous with care and concern. We respect those we care about. Sometimes we excuse our disrespect, even for people we care about, by holding against them *their* lack of caring or concern for us.

*“RESPECT FOR OTHERS  
SHOWS REVERENCE FOR  
GOD AND HIS CREATIONS.”*

“Respect is an expression of Christlike living. It is closely linked to all other qualities we are counseled to cultivate: patience, long-suffering, brotherly kindness, and love unfeigned [D&C 121: 41-42]. It is a feature of selfless service and humble repentance. It is essential when healing or dissolving hostilities. Respect for others shows reverence for God and for His creations. Through showing respect, we truly feel more a part of the human family and recognize and honor our common divine parentage.” -Terrance D. Olson, “Cultivating Respect,” *Ensign*, Oct 2001, 46

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*ROOMMATES LIVE THE  
GOLDEN RULE.*

“Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.” -Matthew 7: 12

*RESPECT LEADS TO A  
HAPPIER APARTMENT*

“As in all relationships—happiness abounds when there is respect for each other. One must have a capacity to work out problems, a willingness to give and take, and a genuine unselfishness.

“Particularly to those not yet married I counsel: Those who marry in the hope of forming a permanent partnership require certain skills and attitudes of mind. They must be skillful in adapting to each other; they need capacity to work out mutual problems; they need willingness to give and take in the search for harmony; and they need unselfishness of the highest sort—thought for their partners taking the place of desire for themselves. This is respect. It is part of our quest for the abundant life.” -President Thomas S. Monson, “In Quest of the Abundant Life,” *Ensign*, March 1988, 2