What is your best advice for me on living with two roommates?

Having a good roommate relationship is based on the same principles whether you have one or two roommates. Your RA will work with you to fill out a roommate agreement when you first arrive, which will help you to discuss and collaborate to create guidelines for your living environment. These topics include cleanliness, guests, study and sleep needs, and how to handle any disagreements that may arise. All first year students who are new to community living will need to learn to work with their new roommates with a positive attitude, open mind, and good communication skills. Tell others what you need and respect their needs as well! Remember, good roommates live well together. You may make other friends and socialize with different groups, but you can still have a good roommate relationship and a successful rooming experience.

The other key is to pack light. Swap out your clothing as the seasons change, send items home, and bring only what you need for the first few weeks. Students can easily ship items from the Bryant University Post Office and have packages sent to them as well. We encourage you to take advantage of this service, especially if you are coming from a distance. In addition to the photos of representative triple rooms that are provided online, you are also welcome to come to campus and see a staged triple room before move-in day so you have a sense of how they are set up. Items that stores are trying to sell you for your room are often unnecessary.

What is the best way to navigate the September 5 move-in day on campus?

Residence Life and the Department of Public Safety work very hard to make move-in day as streamlined as possible. For all students and their families, we recommend patience and a positive attitude, as the day can be an emotional one. Unload your cars as quickly as possible and then take advantage of some time together on campus. Enjoy lunch, meet our mascot Tupper, and root for the Bulldogs to win as they take on American International College at 3 p.m.

For students living in a tripled room, we recommend that you coordinate ahead of time with your roommates and if possible stagger your arrival to campus so each of you have some space and privacy while you’re moving in. Residence Life does not assign you to a specific bed within your room, so we strongly suggest that you discuss in advance who is going to take which bed.

During move-in day, the RAs will be working in your buildings to help you with any needs that may arise. Additionally, your Resident Director will be visiting rooms and holding a meet-and-greet in your lobby to provide you with the
opportunity to get together as well as have any issues resolved. A dedicated member of the Facilities staff will be in each building to deal as quickly as possible with any concerns that may arise. If you have a question or need help, just ask!

■ Will I be a good match with my new roommates?
We think so! Residence Life uses the same process to match students who live in doubles as those who live in triples. We take into consideration lifestyle compatibility, and specifically reviewed each tripled roommate match to find the best combinations possible. We are glad that 92% of those students who requested a roommate match were given their request. Keep in mind, living away from home and having a roommate is a transition for everyone, whether it’s one roommate or two. Your RA will help all of his/her residents with these transitions and can help if you run into any bumps along the way.

■ What are the best ways to maximize storage?
Hanging shoe racks can open up space in your closet. Collapsible hampers (as opposed to soft laundry bags) only take up space when they’re needed. Low, flat plastic storage containers will fit under the bottom bunked bed. We also strongly recommend that you share a single micro fridge, if you decide to get one for your room. Talk to your roommates in advance of campus move-in to discuss who is bringing a television, since you won’t need three in the same room. Bring only what you need for each season and swap out items that are unnecessary.

■ Does the University provide storage?
At this time, the University is unable to provide students with on-campus storage. However, we have a long-standing relationship with New England Student Services, and recommend their storage options. They will provide boxes, pick up your boxes from you, store them in a climate-controlled facility, and deliver them back to you. They can be reached at (401) 405-0920 or support@nestudentservices.com, and please be sure to mention Bryant’s school code #2396.

■ How long will I be in a tripled room?
That’s difficult to answer because the answer is contingent upon other students making changes to their residential plans. Spaces do open up over the course of the semester, and your Resident Director will work with you if an opportunity to de-triple arises. We allow you and your roommates to decide which student will move to the new location, and work closely with the Facilities staff to quickly remove excess furniture after the move. However, it has been our experience that lots of students elect not to de-triple because they’ve made friends with both of their roommates, learned how to best work and live together, and find it to be a good situation. If you want to stay with your roommates, you may certainly do so!
Can I switch rooms with someone else who is also in a triple?
Yes, possibly. Bryant does not permit any moves during the first two weeks of classes, because roommates need a chance to get to know each other before requesting a change. After that, if you find someone with whom you would like to switch, your Resident Director can help you explore this option. Please be aware that all roommates of both rooms involved will need to agree with the swap. Switching rooms isn’t always the answer to a roommate issue, though. Your RA and RD will also help you with the necessary skills to communicate and resolve any conflicts with your roommates so everyone can be successful. Moving is really a last resort option. Most roommate conflicts are easily handled with some open communication, respect, and compromise.

Where can I study and relax on campus?
Many Bryant students take advantage of multiple locations throughout campus to study, work on group projects, and relax together. Your Resident Assistant can help you find spaces that work best for you, but most students take full advantage of the following locations:

• **Fisher Student Center** – your campus living room provides not only food, services, and meeting space, but also collaboration stations ideal for working on group projects.

• **Unistructure** – students study in their classrooms all the time. Whiteboards and moveable furniture in most classrooms also help groups to create innovative ideals and plan their projects.

• **Krupp Library**, within the **George E. Bello Center for Information and Technology** – With areas for group work, quiet study, private corrals, and the assistance of our staff research librarians, the library is a very popular choice for work and study throughout the academic year.

• **Machtley Interfaith Center** – a space for peace, quiet, personal reflection, and a little piano music if you choose to play!

• **Elizabeth and Malcolm Chace Wellness and Athletic Center** – between group exercise classes, weights, cardio machines, and a great pool, lots of students relax and stay healthy by working out in the Chace Athletic Center.
Bryant prides itself on being a welcoming and caring community. We take great care to maintain our beautiful campus. We encourage you to explore your new home and make it your own!