

IS IT A GOOD IDEA TO ROOM WITH A FRIEND?

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**By dan the roommate man**

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On the subject of moving in with a friend, I really don't have much experience. I still live with my folks. The way I see it, why move out when I have free housing and free food here at home? I'm only 18, so I'm still trying to save money. But if I did move out, I definitely would not move in with a friend. On the contrary, I haven't had much luck with long-term friendships anyway. I've seen many come and go, but only one true friend has lasted. I don't want to ruin that by moving in with her. Let me tell you why.

There are many, many reasons I can give you. But I'll start with this one. Surely, everybody has a best friend. Surely, everyone realizes that if you're with them too long, they begin to irritate you. Now think about what it would be like to live with them. You'll begin to notice little things they do that can be nerve-racking. Whether it's biting their nails, constantly flipping through the TV channels, or always brushing their hair. In the case of living with them, maybe you didn't know that they snore loudly, or that their bodily functions could smell so bad.

Those are just the little things. Did you ever think about the bigger and more important issues? Think about the rent payments, the electricity bills, and the water bills. I've had some friends that were pretty bad at keeping a job. Even if they did have a job, they were never there. If they can't keep a job, they definitely couldn't keep up on payments. Sooner or later they'd be mooching gas money off you after they've carelessly spent what little money they had on candy bars, pizza, or video games.

I'm sure everyone has seen the scenario on TV and in movies. Your roommate is the party animal, while you on the other hand, have your nose in the books. That can really happen. Your friend could have tons of people over helping themselves to your stashes of food and listening to loud music while you're in the back room trying to study for exams the next day.

A person can only hold their anger in for so long. After a few months, you and your best friend, who you cherished the most at one time, will soon be at each other's throats constantly. They'll end up moving out, leaving you with bad credit because of their late payments. Most likely you'll be forced to move back in with your parents, not only losing your freedom once again, but you'll be losing a great friend as well.

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If you want my advice, I'd stay home as long as you can. If that isn't possible, move in with your boyfriend or girlfriend. Get the feel of marriage life if you'd like. After all, everyone knows that lovers come and go, but friends SHOULD last a lifetime.

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DAN THE ROOMMATE MAN [www.roommateexpress.com](http://www.roommateexpress.com)

### **Do You Really Need a Friend Quiz To Tell If Someone Is Your Friend?**

**By Brian Fong**

Q. I took a friend quiz in a magazine and it says that I don't make a very good friend. Can that really be true?

A. First, let me say congratulations! If the quiz said that you don't make a very good friend then you must have answered the quiz honestly, at least from the friend quiz author's point of view.

Now let's delve into the content of the quiz. The bad thing about a friend quiz is that it is automatically biased by the author's opinion of what makes a good friend.

For example: There might be a question that asks:

Your friend wants you to cover for her by telling her mother that she is sleeping at your house when she is really going to an all night party with her boyfriend. Do you say:

A. "No problem." B. "I'll do it but I'd rather not." C. "No way, you're on your own girlfriend."

What's the right answer? Well, the morally right answer is obviously "C". Would that make you a better friend than either "A" or "B"? Yes, actually, it would. There is a very good chance that something bad is

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going to come out of the all night party. Your friend could get drunk and become a victim of date rape, get injured or killed in a car accident, or get arrested if the police raid the party. As a good friend, you should care more about your friend's safety and security than her having a good time doing something that she has to lie about.

However, if the friend quiz rates you a snitch because you answered "C", then, according to the author, you're not a good friend.

Look. You don't need a friend quiz to know if you're a good friend, or if someone else is a good friend to you. Take the quiz for the fun of it, but don't take it seriously. Your heart knows if you are a good friend and what it means to have a good friend. Trust your instincts and not some stranger's value system. A person's friendship is far too valuable a gift to trust the results to a friend quiz.

Brian Fong runs the popular quiz site

Quiz Faq – Your solutions for the quiz.

Do You Really Need a Friend Quiz To Tell If Someone Is Your Friend?

Be Your Own Best Friend

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FRIENDSHIP Suggestions For Feeling Better.

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