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**REAL STORY– A HOHO FRIEND FOR A ROOMMATE**

**By Dan the roommate man**

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Although this story is coming from the perspective of a crazy roommate, it is something I still regret to this day. It all started when I moved in with my best friend at college. We were as different as night and day – I liked to drink and party alot, while he was more down for sitting on our couch and watching fucked up foreign movies. We knew things weren't going to work out when 3 days into living with each other he awoke to me pissing in his room. I can't really remember doing it, but he assures me that I did, and that after taking a piss in his room I assured him that my piss was just a little bit of hanky doodle. Sure, he laughed it off after a couple of days, but things just got worse between us.

I'm going to go ahead and take full responsibility for being the crazy asshole roommate in this relationship, but things got pushed over the edge when I decided to pull a prank on him one night, even though pranks were pulled every other night. I had another friend of mine distract my roommate away from our apartment while me and another buddy set out into the city in search of a homeless person. Of course I wanted to videotape the whole experience, so we brought my camera. After about an hour of searching, we pulled into a place called Mike's Beer Barn, where a big black man approached us trying to sell us "Miami Crip", I politely declined his offer and instead told him that if he would agree to go along with this prank I'd buy him some "Natural Ice" (the good shit) and pay him \$20 dollars. Now, this dude smelled and dressed like a hobo so he was perfect for the part, plus he looked pretty crazy too. I thought this plan was going to be perfect.

We took him back to my apartment where he ate all our mini pocket pizzas, the bastard. We then told him to go lay down in my roommates bed until my roommate got back home. He suggested that he could really scare my roommate by pulling out his knife that he had been carrying on him. To this day, I don't know why I didn't stop the prank there when he had told me that. Meanwhile, I had my buddy filming the whole thing. He was in my roommate's closet so he could catch my roommate's reaction when he saw a homeless man sleeping in his bed. Well when my roommate came home, he opened the door to his room, turned on his lights and to his suprise this huge black man jumped out of his bed and started to yell in his face "What the fuck are you doing in my room?" All my roommate could do was laugh nervously, while I laughed my ass off in the living room.

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This continued for a while, with the hobo chewing out my roommate and frisking him for stuff that he claims was stolen from "his" room. At one point the hobo told my friend to stop laughing, and you could see the terror in his eyes. This hobo was unpredictable, and I was enjoying every moment of it. The best was when he told my roommate to leave his room through our circuit breaker. Soon after all this the hobo confessed to my roommate that this was all a big prank and we all laughed it off, except my roommate who was still in shock. I know, I'm an asshole.

I ended up driving the bum back to where we found him, and he kept asking me for more money. I gave him my cell phone number and said call me if you ever want to earn more money like this for another prank – another bad idea. So I go back to my apartment where I see my roommate freaking out because he can't find "his" video camera (which was a \$400 cannon camera) that was laying on his bed the last time any of us had seen it. So this was when I had to call the cops up and tell them that

this hobo had stolen our camera and give them the whole story of what I had done. They just looked at me like they didn't know whether to laugh or throw my ass in jail. I gave them the videotape of us pulling off the prank so they could see what this guy looked like.

The next day I get a call from the hobo. He told me that he can pull off another prank for me, for more money. It was something along the lines of getting a girl he knew to dress like a guy, and then go make out with another girl only to reveal to her that she too is a girl. This dude was wack. So I figured this was my chance to catch this guy and get him to confess to stealing my roommate's camera. I picked him up from ABC liquour store and had my roommate follow my truck close by, just in case this dude decided to pull his knife on me and jimmy shank me. I had also borrowed a tazer from some guy I worked with just in case I had to use it for protection. My hand was gripped on it the whole fucking time.

I asked the bum about my roommate's camera, to which he gets real defensive and says that the last time he saw it, it was laying by the bed. At this point I was like fuck this whole situation, I'm just going to try to get ride of this bum and get back our videotape and just buy my roommate a new camera. That was a hard thing to do though because the bum didn't want to leave my truck. So I tempted him with some beer. I gave him a couple of bucks to go run into a store and buy some beer. As soon as that bastard left my truck I slammed on my gas peddle and got the hell out of there. The next step was to get the videotape back, because I didn't want my parents or my roommate's parents knowing about this incident.

I saw a cop on the side of the road and asked him about getting some evidence back from the police station. He asked me what it was, and I told him that it was a videotape. He then started to laugh and said you're that kid that put a bum in your roommate's bed. At this point I felt like a real piece of shit. But I eventually got the videotape back. I thought all was fine until a couple of days later I get a call from the hobo again in which he threatened to kill me and says that he does have our camera and wants me to come to him to get it. I just told him to go fuck off (at this point I wasn't scared of this dude anymore, just pissed off) and that I had already bought my roommate a new camera.

To conclude this story I got what I deserved, and I know I'm an asshole and should get the shit kicked out of me which all my other friends agreed with, and wanted to kick my ass the same day the camera was stolen. The moral of all this – don't use real bums to pull pranks on your roommates, get a

professional actor instead; you might just save yourself \$400.

DAN THE ROOMMATE MAN [WWW.ROOMMATEEXPRESS.COM](http://WWW.ROOMMATEEXPRESS.COM)

## **To roommate or not to roommate**

**By dan the roommate man**

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#### Making the Decision

Do you want or need to live with a roommate? What are the pros and cons of having a roommate? What should you consider when looking for a roommate? And what issues should you get settled before you move in? On this page we'll look at the pros and cons and some tips to consider; later, we will look at the some of the issues you should get settled before moving in with roommates and how to get them in writing.

#### The Pros of Roommates

it's often cheaper as costs (rent, utilities, food) are split  
household chores are a shared responsibility  
you can often afford a bigger apartment with more living space if you split the costs  
a roommate can assuage loneliness

#### The Cons of Roommates

a perceived (if not real) lack of privacy someone else's problems can become yours you're relying on someone else honoring their obligations (to pay rent, to pay utilities, etc.) there's always the potential for disputes, even with a friend

#### Some Considerations

Just because someone's been your best friend since elementary school doesn't mean he or she will make a great roommate.

Often living together can destroy even a close friendship.

It's a good idea to know going in what you want in a roommate and what you won't tolerate. Will you accept a roommate who smokes? What about one with a live-in boyfriend or girlfriend? Will you live with someone of the opposite sex? What about someone of a different sexual orientation? What about cleanliness? Pets? Morning person vs. night owl?

If you're looking for a room sharing situation (rather than looking for an apartment with a friend), you need to start looking as early as possible. It can sometimes take longer to find an acceptable rental share situation than just to find an apartment.

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As with any apartment search, make sure everyone you know knows that you are looking. You never know where the perfect lead will come from, but often people are your best source. And people who know you well will probably also recommend things they know you'll like.

Ask questions. If you're looking at apartment share situations, you want to know as much as possible

about the people you'll be living with, right? Make a list of questions ahead of time, and get them answered.

Answer questions. Be as honest as possible with potential roommates and put your best foot forward.

Don't expect that your new roommate will be your new best friend as well. While the two of you may, indeed, become good friends, it isn't a prerequisite for sharing an apartment.

Be prepared to compromise. Sharing an apartment or house with someone else usually requires some adjustment. Chances are you can no longer have your friends over all night every night, watch whatever you want on the living room TV, or let the dishes sit for weeks.

Since 1989 dan the roommate man has helped 1000's of people find rooms or roommates.



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