

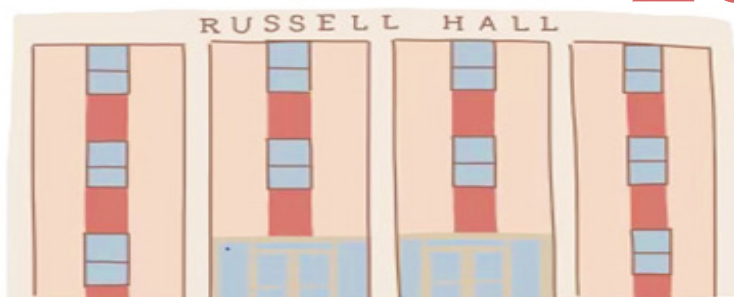
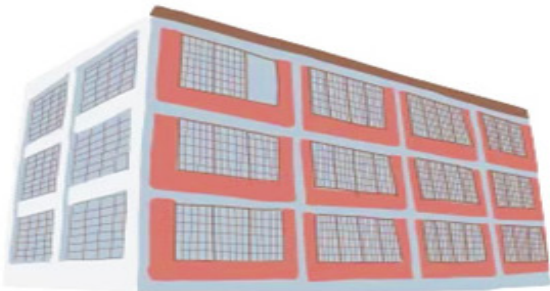


# BAYLOR LARIAT

*News for the students by the students*

## HOUSING EDITION

**PARK PLACE**



## What's inside?

**20** Do you know your dorm's Enneagram?

**13** Colossal speedbumps

**10** Reader top comfort picks

# Commuting for hope, 100 miles at a time

**EMMA WEIDMANN**  
Arts & Life Writer

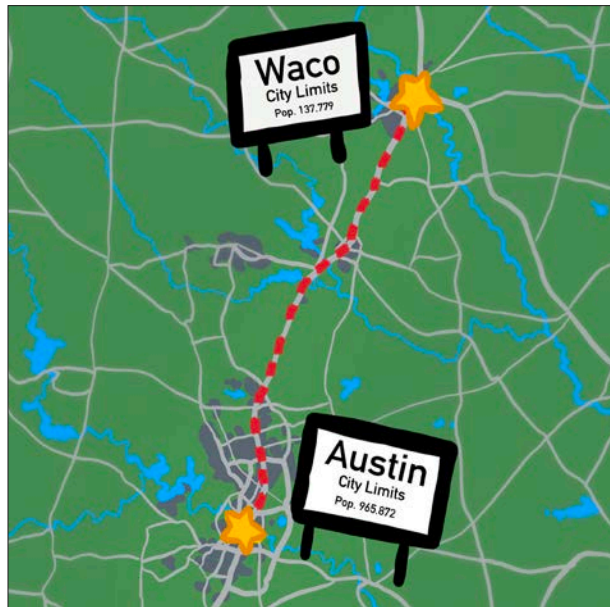
Like most upperclassmen, Austin junior Hailey Pearson lives off campus. Unlike most, Pearson travels to campus from her apartment in Austin every Tuesday and Thursday. After a long day of classes, she makes the journey home once more.

Four hundred miles, six hours on the road and \$90 spent on gas each week are the marks of Pearson's commitment. Pearson's parents are separated, and her father is sick and cared for by her stepmother and nurses, making Pearson eager to see him as much as possible. Although she enjoyed living on campus during her freshman year, Pearson said living far from home has made her feel disconnected.

"I felt like I was separated from the people I love most," Pearson said. "Then my father ended up getting sick, and I felt like I was neglecting that connection by not being close to him ... I felt like I was neglecting my sister as well. You feel helpless in a way when someone you love is sick and you want to be there for them ... You want to make as many memories as you can."

Pearson said she briefly considered a gap semester after struggling with mental health and losing two family members, her uncle and a cousin, during her freshman year. She isn't alone. According to Dr. Burt Bursleson, university chaplain and dean of spiritual life, 50-75 Baylor students experience a loss in their immediate family every year. After talking with Bursleson, Pearson said she got the support she needed and made finishing school a priority.

"[He] is an angel," Pearson said. "He's the nicest man I've ever met in my life ... There are so many people who are not only willing, but want to help you [at Baylor]. I'm able to be more hopeful now, where I know that even if the worst-case scenario



Olivia Havre | Photographer

**LIFE IS A HIGHWAY** Austin junior Hailey Pearson commutes 400 miles per week to and from Waco for her Baylor classes.

happens, you're going to be OK at the end of it."

Bursleson said Spiritual Life helps students who may be facing a challenging situation gain stability by letting professors know the situation and getting students the support they need. As a minister, Bursleson said it's important to him to be present and in the moment with students.

"You want to be real," Bursleson said. "You want to be a human

being ... Baylor ought to be, in a Christ-like way, a kind place."

Pearson said she sat down one day and worked out the logistics of commuting twice a week from the state capital to campus.

"Now I get to see my father every day, and when I'm not at home or with my friends at [The University of Texas], I'm here," Pearson said. "Commuting was the best choice for my family, and it was the best choice for me."

When Pearson is home, she spends quality time with her father and 5-year-old sister. Pearson said her father "bleeds burnt orange," and she'll often sit and watch UT football games with him at home.

But the experience is not without stress. Pearson said she's never been more tired in her life and sometimes struggles to find motivation to drive to Waco in the mornings. She said she currently has very little choice. If she chooses not to come to campus, she misses three classes, whereas the average student can skip just one.

Bursleson said he was once told "God comes to you disguised as your life." He said struggles are an opportunity not just for learning but for "becoming."

"It's a part of what it means to be a human being, to deal with despair but also long for hope," Bursleson said. "We're made for this ... Something's happened for [her] where she's able to say, 'I'm going to keep at it.' Whether you call it resilience or perseverance or grit ... how do we help people return to this capacity for hope and make it through difficult things?"

Hope is in no short supply for Pearson. Graduating from college has been a dream of hers since childhood, one that she's determined to fulfill no matter how many early mornings on the road it takes.

"Losing hope isn't an option for me," Pearson said. "I really want to make my family proud. It's not a choice to give up."

## Meet the Staff

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To submit a Lariat Letter, email Lariat-Letters@baylor.edu. Letters should be a maximum of 400 words. The letter is not guaranteed to be published.

Cover by Gwen Ueding | Cartoonist



Grace Everett | Photo Editor

**HOME AT LAST** The Row residents finally move into their apartments after a month of issues.

## Students move into The Row

**MATT KYLE**

Assistant News Editor

Residents of The Row finally moved in after construction delays postponed the move-in date by almost a month. Final inspections were completed Tuesday and tenants began unloading their cars and moving into their units around 3 p.m. Wednesday.

Construction on The Row, an apartment complex located at 1624 S. 10th St., was initially scheduled to complete construction before the school year started. Residents were given an initial move-in date of Aug. 17 before management sent an email on Aug. 12 announcing that construction delays had postponed move-in by one week.

Five days later, residents were given a new move-in date of Sept. 14. During the delays, Brothers Management provided hotel accommodations and storage units for students, but the hotel where students stayed had no room over Labor Day weekend, forcing students to move hotels.

While moving into The Row, residents expressed their excitement about getting to finally see their units, but also expressed frustration over the month long delays. Little Rock, Ark., sophomore Anna Jeffrey said she has been frustrated by the lack of communication regarding move-in.

"I'm really excited that we're going to be able to move in, but there's still built up irritation,"

Jeffrey said. "It's just the fact that we are never in the know. We get emails two days before we're supposed to move in."

Katy sophomore Chandler Alvarez also said the lack of clear communication frustrated her. She said it was difficult trying to get started with a new school semester without being fully settled in Waco.

"I was just not settled at all," Alvarez said. "I feel bad for my professors because I'm not equipping myself as I would if I was settled."

Austin sophomore Katelyn Lam said she and her roommate moved hotel rooms six times during the delays. Waco sophomore Ellie Becker said the delays and adjusting to living in a hotel were initially difficult, but Brother's Management did a good job of accommodating residents during the delays.

"The Element hotel that we stayed at was really nice," Becker said. "Brand new hotel with a kitchen, it had laundry machines, washer, dryer machines, complimentary breakfast, so a great area to stay."

Mark Boozer, co-owner of Bear Waco Land Investors, previously told The Lariat the construction delays were caused by industry-wide construction issues like labor shortages and supply chain disruptions. He said construction was completed Monday.

While moving in, one resident said the railing on the staircase in her unit ripped off

the wall while she was moving up the stairs. Another resident in a different unit, Southlake sophomore Bella Buncher, said management had communicated to residents in an email that "finishing touches" needed to be made on some of the units.

"The inspection from the City of Waco passed, so we're able to live here," Buncher said. "But there are some finishing touches that are going to be happening, I think throughout this week."

Despite some units facing issues, residents overall said the apartments were nice and they were excited to live there. Prosper sophomore Emma Reed said it was frustrating having to move between hotels, but the units are worth the trouble.

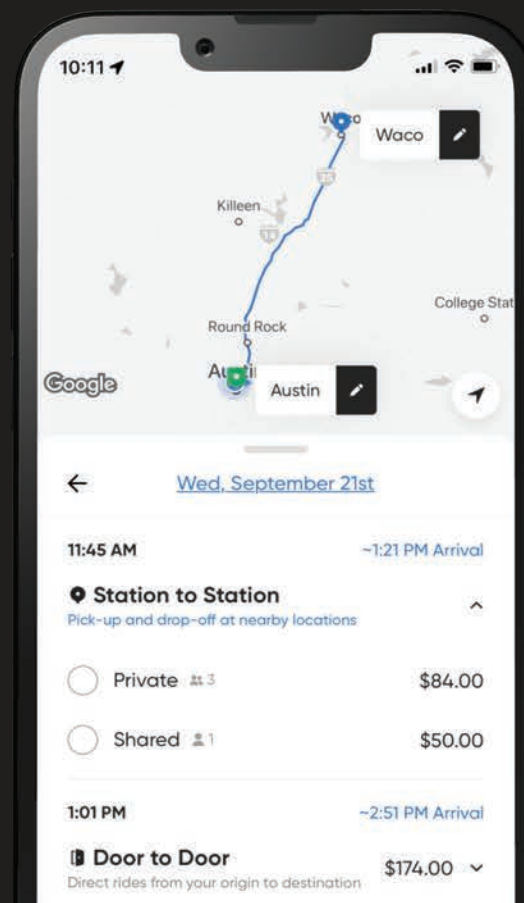
"We've been trying to make light of the situation, because obviously, it's not easy for any of us," Reed said. "But we're excited to finally get to move in. It's super nice, so it'll be worth it."

**NEED CONTEXT?  
SCAN BELOW:**



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EDITORIAL

# Renter tip: Don't sign lease before reading

After the stress of finding roommates and searching for a place to live off campus, throwing your signature on a contract might sound like the most relieving thing in the world.

Finally, the contract is signed. You move into your first off-campus living space. Your furniture is set up, your decorations are just how you want them and everything is finally organized. Everything is perfect, and you finally feel like a "real" adult.

Unfortunately, this dream can be short-lived if the proper precautions aren't taken.

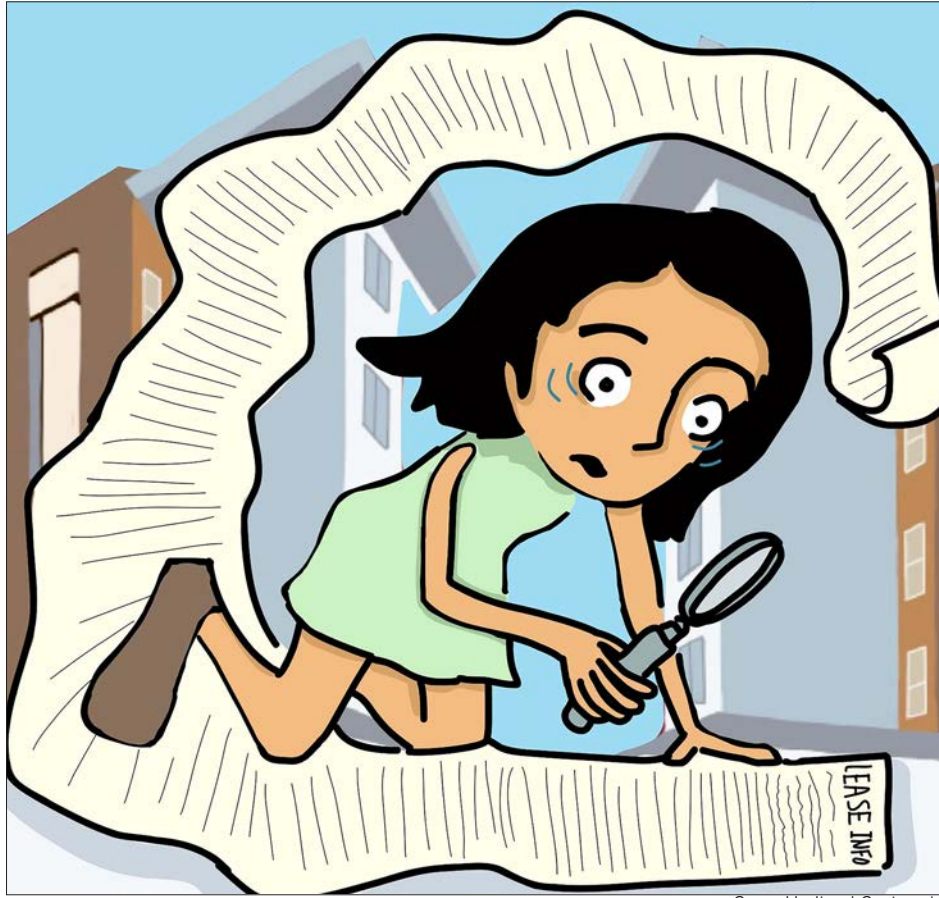
A nightmare of a living situation can ensue if students haven't thoroughly read their contracts and done research before moving in and signing with their housing complex. First-time residents can be easily walked over simply due to a lack of experience.

Before signing a lease, residents are met with promises of great amenities, high-quality service and timely communication. How many students run into the wall of reality within weeks or months in their new home? Calls are left unreturned, and changes come up with seemingly no warning.

There are common complaints with off-campus housing around Baylor. Policies change, maintenance isn't as timely as management promised and communication can be lackluster. There is no shortage of housing horror stories.

Students can and will be pushed around by management if they haven't done their due diligence before signing and moving in. While low-quality service and broken promises are never acceptable, housing management troubles can be minimized by residents.

From a student perspective, reading your lease and contract thoroughly is incredibly important. Know the specifics before signing, and be wary of the fine



Gwen Ueding | Cartoonist

print. Ask a parent or trusted adult to look over your contract with you.

Research the different off-campus housing options beforehand. Asking other students and doing a deep online search can be incredibly beneficial. In addition to these steps, set up an in-person meeting with a staff member from the company and bring questions. If you go on a tour, bring a list of things you want to know — don't be afraid to ask questions.

Sure, things don't always go as planned from a management perspective. However, there are ways student residents can avoid bigger issues and promote transparent communication with their housing management.

If there are issues with how a complex is being managed, pick up the phone or go in person to speak with someone. Be respectful and assertive with the issues that are going on; nothing will be changed

if management is not aware.

Listen to other student experiences to avoid a housing nightmare. Trust your peers when you're looking for a place to live off campus. Comb through online reviews and be critical.

Your home away from home is no place to take shortcuts.

## 10 Tips for Tenants

1. Bring your paperwork
2. Review the lease
3. Get everything in writing
4. Protect your privacy rights
5. Demand repairs
6. Talk to your landlord
7. Purchase renter's insurance
8. Protect your security deposit
9. Protect your safety
10. Deal with an eviction properly

SOURCE: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

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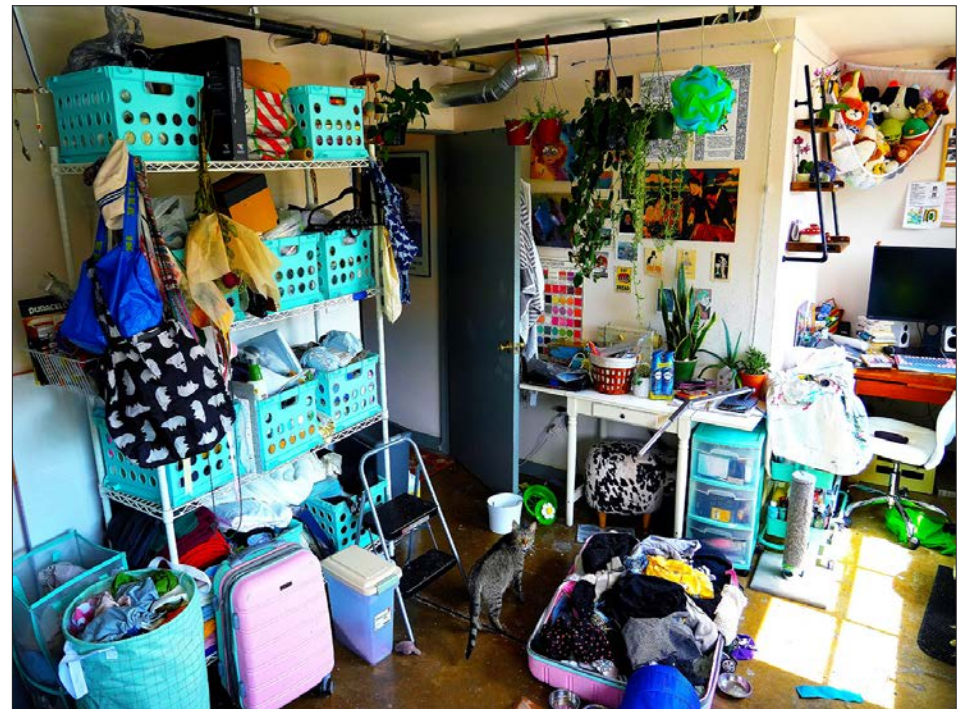
# Four tips for turning stuffy living space into decluttered paradise

**ERIANNE LEWIS**  
Arts and Life Editor

Clutter and accumulation are issues many people often run into because as college students—let's be real—cleaning your room can sometimes be the last thing on your list. With classes, work, friends, clubs and organizations, something is constantly drawing our attention and energy. So, to help solve this issue, I've compiled a list of a few tips that will hopefully fit into our busy schedules.

## 1. Clear clutter as it happens

I've found this step to be very helpful because cleaning up small things consistently is easier to me than attempting to clean all at once. Throw away that bottle of soda or energy drink after you finish drinking them. This will prevent them from forming a family of drinks beside your bed.



Olivia Havre | Photographer

**CLEAN UP** Find the best ways to maintain a clean and organized environment.

## 2. Get rid of items you are not consistently using

This step is especially hard for me, because I tend to form connections to items I am given or that I purchase. It can be hard to let go of that friendship bracelet someone made you at summer camp in fifth grade. Trust me, I know. This also applies to that shirt or those pants in your closet you promised yourself years ago you would wear again. If you have no plans of actually wearing it anytime soon, you must let it go. Maybe in junk heaven it will be reunited with other things that were held on to past its use date.

## 3. Make sure you aren't overbuying

This step goes hand-in-hand with throwing/giving away items that you don't use regularly. Overbuying is a problem that many people probably don't even realize they have. A special sale or a trendy new must-have item can easily lure someone into purchasing something they don't need. Growing up, I was always told that if you couldn't name at least five times you would wear it, then you don't need it. To be fair, I don't always follow this because I do value the importance of statement pieces. However,

you have to be realistic with yourself. If you are buying something just because you hope to find somewhere to wear it, will you actually wear it? Marie Kondo discussed this really well in her show "Tidying Up with Marie Kondo" on Netflix. Kondo often asked viewers if an item "sparks joy" for them. If the answer is no, then you must let it go.

## 4. Figure out a specific place for each item in your room

This tip is important because having a special location for each of your belongings allows you to maintain your space better. It is also important that when you take something out of its designated space, you must place it back after use. Keeping up with this is a key part of preventing random things from being sprawled out and causing clutter.

One of the most important things to remember is that consistency is key. Remembering to implement some of these steps will ease the issues of clutter and accumulation in your home. Your space should be somewhere that is seen as a haven or place of comfort. Don't allow clutter to prevent you from experiencing ease at home.

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Photo courtesy of Natalie Stitt

**BESTIES** Best friends and future bridesmaids for each other, Claire Teng and Natalie Stitt spend girl time together.

# Strangers to bridesmaids: Facebook is fairy godmother of roommate matching

**GILLIAN TAYLOR**  
Staff Writer

Two strangers found their way to each other, and four years later, they will now be bridesmaids in each other's weddings — all because of a Facebook group and two girls' eagerness to find a roommate for freshman year.

St. Louis, senior Claire Teng and Tulsa, Okla., senior Natalie Stitt found each other during their senior year of high school on the class of 2023 Facebook group while searching for roommates for freshman year.

The then-incoming freshmen said they wanted to use an alternate way to find a roommate, rather than the suggested roommates feature in the Baylor My Housing portal. Coincidentally, they both turned to the university-sponsored Facebook group.

"I felt a lot of pressure to find a roommate because I really didn't want Baylor to assign me someone random," Stitt said. "I wanted to get to know my roommate before I moved in and at least have one friend."

Stitt said the only reason she created a Facebook account was to find a roommate. She said she had previously tried Baylor's roommate matching portal, but she became overwhelmed with the questions being asked in the survey and decided she would rather choose her own roommate.

Teng said the majority of the people she met during her freshman year also found their roommates through the Facebook group. She said she met and talked to people who tried the roommate matching portal and recalled hearing they did not have a good experience.

"It would be nice if Baylor had a specific platform for finding roommates similar to the Facebook group, where people could post and give details about themselves rather than just your major and if you keep the room clean or not," Teng said.

Teng said both she and Stitt followed each other on Instagram after viewing each other's posts in the Facebook group. She said they began to bond over Instagram direct messages and texted back and forth until they started to FaceTime the summer before their freshman year. After realizing how much they had in common, they requested each other as roommates.

Stitt said the experience their freshman year was so great that they decided to continue living together their sophomore year. Now seniors and engaged, Stitt and Teng said they will be in each other's weddings.

"I never would have thought the random roommate I found online [during] senior year of high school would be one of my bridesmaids," Stitt said. "But thank you, Facebook, for giving me one of my closest friends."

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# Tales of dorm life

## Professors remember campus living

**EMMA WEIDMANN**  
Staff Writer

Communal bathrooms, lofted beds and quirky roommates are the trademarks of a freshman dorm. Years and even decades after graduation, these Baylor alumni and professors remember it all.

Dr. Jerolyn Morrison earned her Bachelor's in fine arts at Baylor in 1995 and now is a lecturer of art history.

As a freshman, Morrison

lived in Kokernot Residence Hall. She said the experience was a lot like being at camp, and being from out of state, Morrison enjoyed getting to know the other girls.

"We knew everybody in the dorm," Morrison said. "I just remember it being really small. It was on the edge of campus at that time ... It was a quiet part of campus."

Morrison said her favorite memories from her time in Kokernot are with friends in the outdoor area in front

of the dorm. During a time when the university had strict curfew rules, students would congregate outside instead of in the building in order to work around the rules.

"Because we weren't allowed to have guests then, particularly young men, they would come out and sit around and bring guitars," Morrison said. "There was nobody [on that side of campus] except for the bears, so we weren't bothering anyone."



Photos courtesy of Baylor University and Jake Abell.

**BLAST FROM THE PAST** Dr. Jerolyn Morrison (left) and Dr. Jacob Abell (right) look back on their time in Baylor dorms.

Dr. Jacob Abell, a lecturer in the French department, earned his bachelor's in the University Scholars program in 2013.

Abell said his favorite memory from his time in Alexander Hall as a freshman was the "nerdy" conversations he would have with people in the Honors College. As a transfer student, he enjoyed meeting other students.

Abell recalled one night in Alexander doing calculus homework, when a classics student struck up a conversation with him about mathematics.

"That was the delight, for me, of the dorm, being surrounded by students studying something very different from you, but they took an interest in what you were studying," Abell said. "There were a lot of late night conversations about the kinds of questions we were asking in class."

He said living in the Honors Residential College was a great way to meet people from other countries, as his first roommate was from El Salvador and their suitemates were also

international students.

"It was a cosmopolitan environment," Abell said. "It certainly fanned the flames of my interest in global cultures."

The personal connections made in the dorms stand out to both Morrison and Abell. Morrison remains friends with her freshman year roommate to this day, and

Abell and his suitemates keep in touch.

"The friendships that I had at Baylor as a freshman and sophomore and through college, I still have them today," Morrison said. "A lot of our friends now, our children are now coming to and graduating from Baylor. It's kind of nice."

“

Because we weren't allowed to have guests then, particularly young men, they would come out and sit around and bring guitars.”

**JEROLYN MORRISON |  
LECTURER OF ART HISTORY**

CATCH UP ON ALL THINGS

# BAYLOR

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Asoah Ndomo | Photographer

**CUT AND PASTE** Photo collages give an empty home wall pop.

## Collaging your college home

**AVERY BALLMANN**  
Staff Writer

No matter what phase of life or space I am living in, a wall collage must always make an appearance. This trend has become popular over the years, but sadly, people often buy pre-made collages that can be expensive and boring.

I'm here to show you a cheaper and unique way to decorate your room that is personal to you. Collages are easy to put together and can be versatile for anyone. Here is a step-by-step tutorial on how to create one.

### SUPPLIES

First, you will need to gather your cheap and easy-to-find supplies: scissors, tape and magazines/picture books.

You will need to have a lot of tape for this project, so I recommend going to Dollar Tree since everything is \$1.25.

For magazines and picture books, I usually go to Goodwill, or you can go to your preferred thrift store. At Goodwill, the books range from \$1.00 to \$2.99, depending on if it's a hardback or not. If you need cheaper books, there is a free bookshelf in Moody Memorial Library on the Garden Level. These books are no longer being checked out of the library, so they go to this shelf for anyone to take. The

only problem with this option is it is a limited selection, but I have had some really great finds.

When looking for books, I always look for the genre that goes with my room. For example, I have a lot of plants and earth tones in my room, so I typically go for gardening and nature books. If you're into fashion or cars, you can find books that go with that. The whole point of the collage is to make it unique to you.

### DESIGN

At this point in the how-to, you have gathered all of your supplies. Now it's time to tear into these books. As you comb through your stack of books, dog-ear the photos you like, so you can refer to them to keep a cohesive design. When cutting out the pictures, be sure you don't like the picture on the other side of page. I have had so many incidents where I cut into a picture and realized there was a cooler one on the back. Another tip is to make sure to have a wide variety of sizes for your cutouts. This will help you place these images later.

Now that your pictures are all cut out, place the larger pictures on the wall first, but spread them out to the height and width you want your collage to span. Once you place the larger photos, fill in with the smaller and medium-sized

pictures. When taping these to the wall, I usually roll my tape into a bubble and place those on the corners. Once you start placing your photos, it becomes a game of Tetris. Not everything will fit perfectly, so I usually tuck some pictures behind another or cut out smaller pictures.

### FINAL TOUCHES

Now you've finished your collage — or so you think. Take a step back and see if your collage is even, the correct size and full of photos you enjoy. You'll notice some sides may be lopsided or not filled in enough. Luckily this is a simple fix by adjusting the picture or cutting out a couple more. After a few days, some pictures may fall, which is normal if your fan speed is high or there isn't enough tape, but reinforce them with more tape on the opposite corners or the middle, and it should stick fine.

### BRANCH OUT

There are so many benefits to this type of decor because it doesn't leave wall damage, it's cost efficient and it can be temporary or long-lasting. And, at least to me, it's really fun. If that blank wall in your apartment or dorm is staring back at you, don't get a cheap flag or a pre-made collage; go make one yourself.

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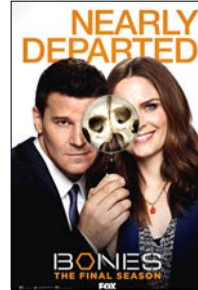
## TV SHOWS



The Flash



The Office



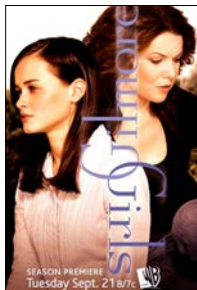
Bones



Criminal Minds



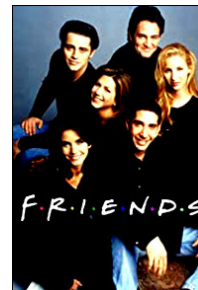
Seinfeld



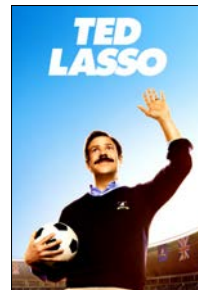
Gilmore Girls



Stranger Things



Friends



Ted Lasso



New Girl

## MOVIES



Back to the Future



Gladiator



Monty Python & the Holy Grail



The Princess & The Frog



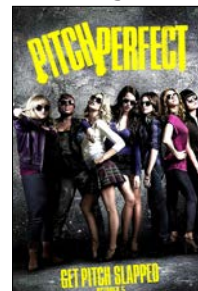
The Conjuring



Mamma Mia



10 Things I Hate About You



Pitch Perfect



Shrek 2



Interstellar

## ARTISTS



Aly & AJ



Billy Joel



Elevation Worship



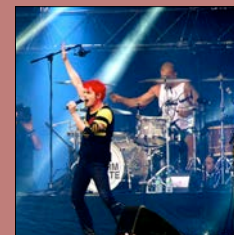
Frank Ocean



Harry Styles



Jack Harlow



My Chemical Romance



Mumford & Sons



Phoebe Bridgers



Rex Orange County



Rush



Steve Lacy



Stevie Wonder



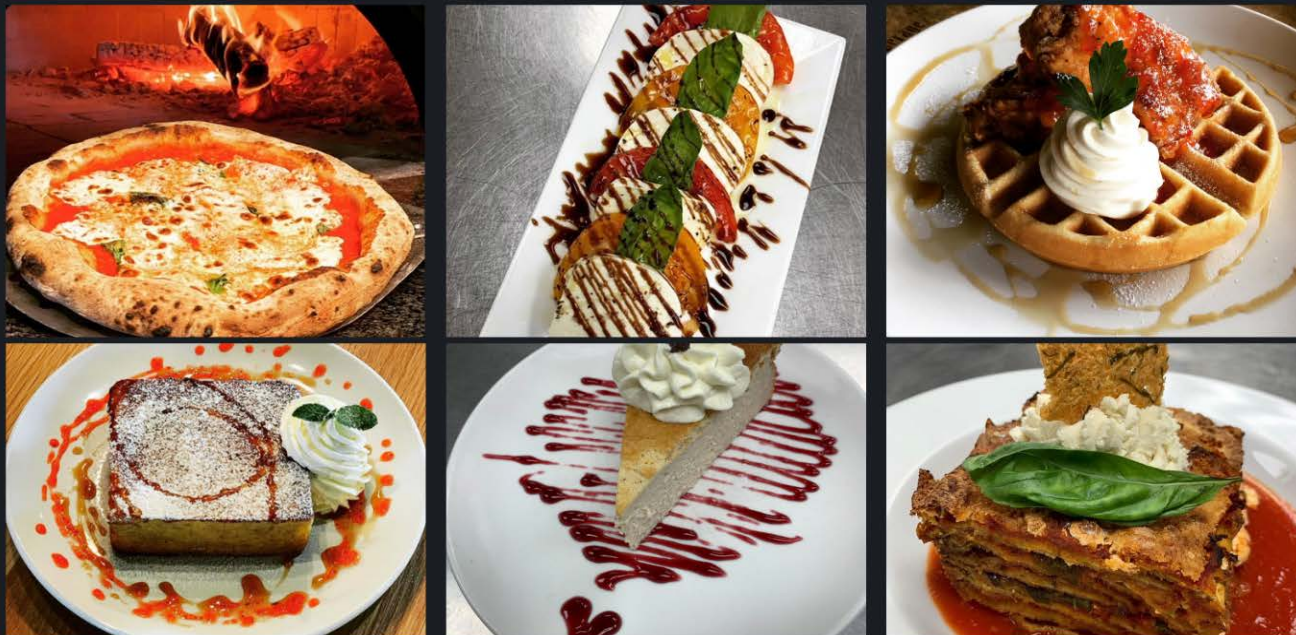
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# Set boundaries early for success with roommates

CLARA SNYDER  
Staff Writer

When deciding who to live with, it is crucial to understand what things are essential to cultivating your ideal living space.

When beginning the college experience, the adjustment extends beyond establishing a new life in a new environment — like finding your rhythm in classes or figuring out which Target home essentials are least likely to spark a flame in the dorm microwave. For many students, college may be the first time they have shared a living space with someone other than a family member for an extended period of time.

A 2009 study from Boise State University showed roughly 25% of college students experienced significant conflicts with their roommates. The study points to college-aged students' lack of strong conflict resolution skills as a driving factor in these issues.

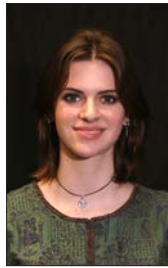
"Research on roommates in conflict suggests that typical first- and second-year students are often not developmentally prepared to effectively negotiate interpersonal conflicts with roommates on their own," the Boise State University study reads.

It doesn't need to be this way. Evaluating how and why these conflicts arise is crucial in recognizing what can be done on an individual basis to prevent living accommodation dissatisfaction.

The first step to cultivating a healthy living situation is picking the right roommate for yourself. A common misconception is that good friends make good roommates, but a recent study by Apartment Guide emphasized the

reality this can create.

"Unfortunately, not only were friends more likely to have tension around keeping shared spaces clean or a significant other staying the night, but one in four people also acknowledged living together hurt their friendship," the Apartment Guide study reads.



Whether it be a friend or not, it is important to know what your potential roommate's living expectations are. Ask yourself what you can't deal with and what you are willing to tolerate — understanding that the perfect roommate doesn't exist.

While there may not be a perfect roommate, there can be an ideal

roommate. Finding and becoming the ideal roommate means recognizing which things need to be maintained in a dorm or apartment and being a respectful peer.

Establish your boundaries before signing a 12-month lease with your roommate. Be sure to ask them what they need to have respected in order to lay the groundwork for a healthy shared reality.

Once the foundation of boundaries has been affirmed, be aware that you may

need to re-communicate these necessities at a later date. Your roommate may not remember all the details initially communicated, and it is unrealistic to assume they can interpret your dissatisfaction at any given moment.

Maintain a clean common area to the best of your ability, even if you don't use the common area or care about its level of cleanliness. Respect what isn't yours, and acknowledge that while the common area does not belong to one person, it is still everyone's responsibility to maintain.



Kenneth Prabhakar | Photographer

**THE KEYS TO SUCCESS** Communication, tidiness and clear boundaries are the keys to success when living with roommates.

According to Apartment Guide, 41% of people said shared space cleanliness was the top source of tension in their living situation.

Not making the effort to keep shared spaces clean can make roommates feel disrespected; the notion can insinuate that you respect your space and belongings more than what doesn't belong to you.

Be up front when conflicts arise. Make an effort to understand why something upsets you. Extend the same respect to your roommates, and empathize with their concerns. Their needs in a living environment may not be the same as yours, but that does not alter your responsibility to accommodate those needs and see them as valid.

Don't dismiss a conflict until you establish common ground on what the issue was, why it matters, what needs to change and how you can prevent the issue from recurring.

Not getting along with your roommates goes beyond the tension of asking to use their ice cube tray after a disagreement. Roommate dissatisfaction can lead to lower GPAs, negative perceptions of your college atmosphere and poor emotional adjustment.

So if the dishes are piling up and you find yourself starting to wonder whether the countertop was the same color when you initially moved in, ask your roommate to clean up when they get a chance. If they are too busy

or are having trouble managing responsibilities, extend a helping hand and clean up for them.

Learn when to speak up for yourself and how to listen to others, and go out of your way to do something nice for your roommates to show you have their best interest in mind too.

**READ MORE:  
ROOMMATES' GUIDE TO  
AVOIDING CONFLICT**



**TIPS FOR DEALING WITH  
ROOMMATE RUMBLES**



# Baylor's residence halls meet the Enneagram

**ANNAGRACE HALE**  
Staff Writer

The Enneagram is the personality test embraced by the Christian community, and what better way to implement this test than to stereotype a Christian university's residence halls? As a reminder, these are my opinions. I am well aware that many different people with different stories live in each of these dorms. No one is the same, and the eclectic community is what makes each hall special. So please take each of these thoughts with a grain of salt.

## TEAL RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE: ONE

As the engineering, computer science and pre-nursing community, these students are on top of it. Ones are hardworking and determined. They are dependable and strive for perfection. They pay close attention to detail. Ones are critical but will get things done in a direct and efficient manner. These traits are essential for all the majors who live in this residence hall.

## KOKERNOT HALL: TWO

These girls are approachable and empathetic and wish to help others. Inside, there are always smiling faces, and these students really take one for the team by living right next to the highway. Each student has to be selfless, especially when sharing those community bathrooms.

## EARLE RESIDENCE HALL: THREE

The science and health community revolves around productivity and determination. Threes are goal-oriented and have a will to perform. They are constantly pushing boundaries and making new discoveries. Pre-med is no joke. With medical school on the horizon, these students feel pressure to perform. Don't get in their way.

## ALEXANDER HALL AND MEMORIAL HALL: THREE OR FIVE

I simply couldn't decide, so I chose two types for the Honors Residential College. In many ways, lots of students in these halls are highly driven and look for purpose in academic success, similar to threes. In other ways, many

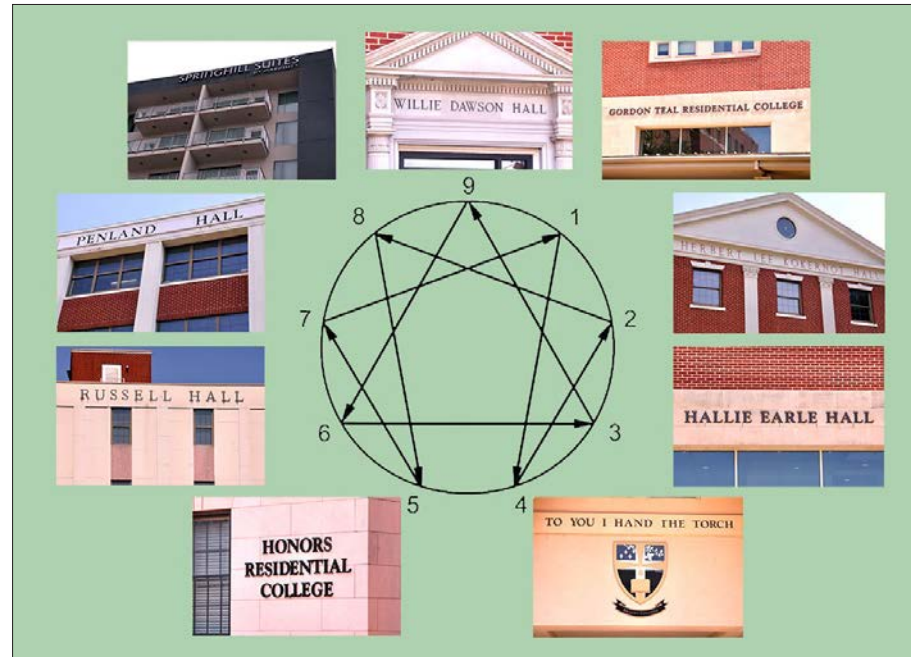


Photo illustration by Grace Everett | Photo Editor  
**DORMY PERSONALITIES** Each dorm at Baylor has built a reputation and can be categorized as an Enneagram by students.

of the students are more introverted and seek knowledge like fives. They sit and observe while collecting information. Fives are deep thinkers, and you know those Honors College kids think a lot.

## UNIVERSITY PARKS: THREE

Division I athletes. Need I say more?

## HERITAGE HOUSE: FOUR

The Fine Arts LLC is artsy. Fours are known for their creativity and authenticity. Some are dramatic, but that trait is helpful when performing on stage or singing in front of a crowd. They wish to be original and strive for individuality. The hall hosts fun carnivals, and the massive chess board outside the entrance adds a little flair of individuality.

## BROOKS RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE AND BROOKS FLATS: FOUR

The brick Harry Potter style residence hall gives Brooks a mysterious, dark academia vibe. Fours like to be unique, and there is no other dorm quite like Brooks on Baylor's campus. The students are individualized in their own way

and bring life to this side of campus.

## NORTH RUSSELL AND SOUTH RUSSELL HALLS: SIX

I'm putting these two halls together because sixes are loyal and perceptive. Looking after others and making sure everything is organized made sense, especially for South Russell, as this dorm houses many students in the School of Education. Sixes find security in the community and NoRo and SoRo are structured to provide a literal circle of friends.

## PENLAND HALL: SEVEN

Tons of different people live in Penland, but if you live in Penland, one thing is true: You're in for an adventure. Sevens take life by storm. They are energetic and like to have fun. Sometimes the energy turns into recklessness. This is why some of the craziest stories stem from Penland's third floor.

## MARTIN HALL: SEVEN

Freshman boys have a lot of energy. Their newfound freedom makes them feel limitless.

Sevens sometimes don't make the best decisions, but they always have fun.

## BAYLOR CITYSIDE: EIGHT

Eights are independent and self-sufficient. They are courageous and strong. Students living in Cityside must have these qualities. Living far from campus can't be easy, but these students embrace the challenge.

## ALLEN HALL AND DAWSON HALL: NINE

Both these dorms are unproblematic and laid back. Nines are well-liked, agreeable and humble. They enjoy the small things in life.

## TEXANA HOUSE: NINE

This 150-girl residence hall supports a community hoping to build friendship on the north side of campus. Nines go with the flow, don't like chaos and adapt to situations. Living in this part of campus, these students have a peaceful walk to Moody Memorial Library for studying and an easy journey to McLane Stadium on game days.

## UNIVERSITY HOUSE: NINE

The twin of Texana House, University House shares many of the same qualities. This first-year residence hall houses many different people, but as a whole, they get along. Nines don't like conflict and support others around them.

## COLLINS RESIDENCE HALL: FORMER SEVEN

Currently being uncrusted.

## ENNEAGRAMS 101



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# Baylor graduate housing furnishes quiet community

**CAITLYN MEISNER**  
Staff Writer

Browning Square and the Quadrangle — Baylor graduate housing — give students a quaint space to relax and study.

There are over 3,000 graduate students across more than 100 programs at Baylor.

Anna Grace Beaudry, community coordinator for Browning Square, and Dr. Alonso Octavio Aravena-Mendez, community coordinator for the Quadrangle, both said the apartment units for the upcoming year typically fill up by early spring, and there is often a long waitlist for the complexes.

“I know several colleagues who have been on the waitlist for either property before for over a year,” said Adam Kraus, a doctoral candidate in the math department, who has lived in Browning Square for two and a half years, said. “It would be nice if there were more options for more students.”

Beaudry said she was lucky to have secured a spot at Browning Square as a first-year graduate student, but she acknowledges the lack of opportunities for students who are interested in this type of housing.

As community coordinators, Beaudry and Aravena-Mendez plan monthly events tailored to their residents, they said.

Beaudry said some past events include pumpkin carving contests, Thanksgiving meal baskets, Cinco de Mayo festivities and group ventures to Christmas on Fifth.

“We’re not RAs,” Beaudry said. “We don’t moderate rules



Katy Mae Turner | Photographer  
**HOUSING** Spots for graduate student housing fill up quickly each year by early spring.

and regulations. We don’t have anything to do with the process of people moving in. That’s all managed by the property management team. It keeps the collegiality between the graduate housing community and the graduate school.”

Kraus said he has enjoyed the Quadrangle’s pumpkin-carving contest held in October.

“You get to go out and meet residents from other graduate student housing, carve pumpkins [and] eat some good food,” Kraus said.

Kraus, Beaudry and Aravena-Mendez said there is a quiet community life within Browning Square and the Quadrangle.

“Most of us are pretty busy here at the Quadrangle,” Aravena-Mendez said. “We’re much more quiet. It’s one of the reasons why we like to live with our graduate students. We’re all just as occupied with having to read 200 sources for a paper.”

Dr. Coretta Pittman, faculty-in-residence for Browning Square, said she agreed with Aravena-Mendez’s comments on the quiet community.

“Only when we have an event do they come out and chit-chat,” Pittman said. “[The graduate students] don’t have a lot of time to be kicking back. In the fall and spring, they have to hit the ground running to make good impressions and make good grades.”

While the accommodations at Browning Square and the Quadrangle are great, Beaudry said she hopes renovations or new facilities come soon after the undergraduate housing projects are complete.

“My hope is that we can find larger graduate housing facilities that are a little bit on the more modern side — don’t have as many continual maintenance issues but can still remain affordable for students,” Beaudry said.

# CLs versus RAs: Are they the same thing?

**MARIAH BENNETT**  
Staff Writer

Community leaders aren't just Baylor's fancy title for resident advisers. CLs have been described as "much more than enforcing rules and doing routine room inspections," according to a 2013 article from The Baylor Lariat.

Campus Living and Learning said CLs are individuals who aim to provide leadership by fostering a community, cultivating several relationships, mentoring residents and facilitating learning through efforts that integrate aspects of academics, diversity, faith development and relationships.

According to a webpage from Cedar Crest College, RAs are "students who live in the residence halls and whose key functions include facilitating community development and ensuring the effective management of the residence halls."

Starting her second year as an RA, Texas A&M University student Gabriella Pena said RAs are tasked with helping freshmen adjust to college life.

Pena said her tasks sometimes include putting in work orders and settling different roommate conflicts. Additionally, she may assist residents with other issues, such as handling academic troubles and connecting them with campus resources.

"It also means building meaningful relationships with freshmen, planning programs and introducing residents to what it means to be in college," Pena said.

Also beginning her second year as a CL at University House, Coppell junior Rylie Kennedy said CLs and RAs seem like they have similar

roles since they both have comparable duties. However, she said Baylor has its own responsibilities that set the two apart.

"The biggest thing that sets Baylor apart is the aspect of community and being able to foster that through programs and finding ways to have everyone be together," Kennedy said.

Pena said while both jobs may take on different roles in their respective communities, they both do about the same amount of work. Kennedy, however, said how one approaches the roles is different.

"[Being a] resident adviser implies that most of your responsibilities will stem from assisting and advising the residents ... while community leader implies that leading one's community is where your responsibility will come from,"

Pena said.

Kennedy said she thinks Baylor gives more focus to community in all aspects surrounding the university, rather than just programs.

"Anything throughout your hall that's fostering that community ... getting to know every single resident and making sure they have space to get to know each other and feel welcome and at home here," Kennedy said.

CLs have their similarities and differences, but Kennedy said she enjoys her work and how Baylor gives a broader platform than other schools.

"I love working as a CL," Kennedy said. "While it is still similar [to an RA], there is a little bit of a difference. And it is just kind of adding to what I think Baylor's culture is and [is also] trying to emphasize the culture of Baylor and community."



Illustration by Assoah Ndomo | Photographer

**PRIVATE OR PUBLIC?** Baylor uses a community leader contrary to Texas A&M University's residential assistant.

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# Homey finds for your life

It takes a bit to add a personal touch to a new living space and make it feel like your own. The A&L staff is here to make that process a little easier by revealing all the items that make our houses or apartments feel like home.

**ERIANNE LEWIS**  
Arts and Life Editor

**AVERY BALLMANN**  
Arts and Life Writer

**LILY NUSSBAUM**  
Arts and Life Intern



Photo Illustration by Grace Everett | Photo Editor

## BEDSIDE LAMP

When I do homework assignments, edit for work, read or watch tv, I typically do it in my room or my apartment. My room is very cozy, but it can get rather dark at night because of the dimness of the overhead light. This is why I love having a little desk lamp next to my bed that provides the perfect amount of light for whatever I am working on at the moment.

## BLANKETS

There is something so comforting about wrapping up in a nice, warm blanket after winding down from a long or stressful day. One of my friends gave me a blanket for Christmas last year, and it easily became one of my favorite gifts of the year. I've carried it with me on road trips and everything.

## PLANTS

My plants are one of the top priority items that have to appear in my home. They are so pretty and make the room feel so calm. I have over 10 plants scattered throughout my room and bathroom. I enjoy taking care of them and having them as an easy decoration.

## SALT LAMP

My other favorite item in my room is my salt lamp. When the evening rolls around and I'm getting ready for bed, I turn on my salt lamp. It sits on my nightstand and has a dimmer switch. This is one of my favorite items because its pink hue is unique and calming. Some nights I'll dim the lamp and fall asleep with it still on. I've had this lamp for at least five years, and it is always situated next to my bed.

## CANDLES

Yes, candles is plural. If you walk into my room, nine times out of ten, a candle will be burning. There is nothing like coming home and lighting a candle based on your mood, vibe or activity that day. Are you reading a book? Light a candle. Are you sitting on your bed? Light a candle. Watching a movie with the roommates? Light a candle.

## STUFFED ANIMAL

My elephant has been my go-to cuddle buddy for the past year and a half, and I am not afraid to admit it. When the sun goes down or in the middle of the day, if you take naps like me, a certain comfort comes from holding something soft. Find a stuffed animal you love and watch your sleeping habits improve.

**CLAY THOMPSON**  
Arts and Life Intern

## PROJECTOR

Who needs a giant TV screen taking up space in your already cramped room when your wall can be your screen? I'm not a big decorator, so I was glad to see that I could use my projector to watch all my favorite shows and movies. My projector creates a crystal clear image on my wall about as large as an 80-inch television, while only taking up the space of a medium-sized book on my nightstand.

## READING CHAIR

A large armchair capable of reclining, rotating and rocking and has huge pockets on the sides. My reading chair is a super comfortable place to sit and read a good book, study or just sit and be.

**RUHI THAPAR**  
Arts and Life Intern

## ESPRESSO MACHINE

My espresso machine (the Breville Bambino, if you are on the market for one) has been a lifesaver in college. It fits perfectly on my counter and is an excellent investment. It has saved me money and precious time that can be repurposed for studying or spending more time with friends.

## DISH TOWEL

This one is a bit niche, but I have a dish towel on my oven that says, "When life gives you lemons, ask if they're organic." This quote is a pretty accurate depiction of my personality and love for Whole Foods, and it also adds a great pop of color to my kitchen.

**EMMA WEIDMANN**  
Arts and Life Writer

## HUGE BEANBAG CHAIR

It's a dream come true — an absolutely massive beanbag chair made of the same fabric as the Emma Chamberlain teddy bear jackets we were all obsessed with in high school. It takes up half of my bedroom floor, and that's fine by me.

## VINYL PLAYER

To the chagrin of my roommates, I spin a record almost every day because there's nothing better than playing Bob Dylan's "Blood on the Tracks" or "Led Zeppelin III" on vinyl. Be that person. Buy that record player.

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# Student sound-off: types of housing

**EMMA WEIDMANN**  
Staff Writer

With few exceptions, first-year students are required to live on campus. But other Baylor students live off campus, choosing to leave residence halls once given the chance. Why might an upperclassman decide to remain on campus, and what drives others to apartments and off-campus living? Two Baylor students weighed in with their opinions.

Aiea, Hawaii, senior Trae Stevens lives in Teal Residential College, while Greenville, S.C., sophomore Carly Fellner lives at Ursa apartments.

## What are the pros?

Stevens: "I'm closer to my classes. It's easier to get to things. The big thing is not having to worry about a lease or finding a place. I just come [to Baylor], go to class and when it's time to leave, I don't have to worry about anything else."

Fellner: "I like having my own room for sure. I love having my own kitchen, since it gets me away from dining hall

food. I like how everything is in one place, having the pool, the gym and the mailroom all right there."

## What are the cons?

Stevens: "At least for East Village, I don't like that I have to pay for a meal plan. I'm quite tired of the dining hall food at this point. I try to get my money's worth out of it by using it, but if I had the option, I probably wouldn't pay for it. I'm not huge on sharing space. Ideally, I'd have my own bathroom and be able to be away from people when I want, and you can't really do that in a dorm. I think [off-campus students] have a little more freedom, which I'd like, but they also have a lot more responsibility with renting the room. I think you give up quite a bit of your freedom and your own personal space."

Fellner: "Sometimes I think it's more convenient living off-campus, but other times I think it's more convenient on campus. If you want to go to the library, you wouldn't have to drive, and dining hall food is right there. The biggest [off-campus inconvenience]

is I don't want to have to buy a parking pass because it's expensive.

The shuttle [from Ursa] works pretty regularly. It's been pretty reliable, but we've had a few times where it hasn't been working."

## Why live there?

Stevens: "It was more convenient than to look for a place off campus. It's easier, more consistent than to have to look for roommates ... staying on campus has been helpful for me ... People are definitely surprised [when learning Stevens lives on campus as a senior], but I just tell them it's more convenient for me. I feel like people definitely think it's a bit weird, mainly because they're all itching to get off campus and have more personal freedom."

Fellner: "I really wanted my own room, and I wanted to try to learn how to cook.

I felt like I wanted to get started on working towards life skills ... I waited pretty late [to sign a lease], and it wasn't that bad. I started looking in March, and there were still a ton of openings."



**HOUSING HEART-TO-HEART** Trae Stevens (left) and Carly Fellner (right) debate over ideal living situations for college students.  
Kenneth Prabhakar | Photographer

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Antonin Scalia Law School,  
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# Guide to off-campus housing

## Survive, thrive while learning ropes of leasing

**SARAH WANG**  
Staff Writer

If you're moving out of residence halls and feeling excited for life off campus, spend some time reading through this guide. You'll be glad when you're enjoying your new home with your friends, not suffering over utilities or worrying about subleasing.

### Ask yourself: Am I more fit for on-campus housing or off-campus housing?

Compare the pros and cons for both on-campus housing and off-campus housing. Living off campus may mean fewer dorm restrictions — more freedom, choice and space.

Freshmen living through their first year's mandatory housing have also suggested many benefits of living on campus: living next to dining halls, meeting more people and having less commuting to classrooms. For students who do not have a vehicle, living on campus is definitely a better choice with regard to convenience.

### Browse your list for things you should look for in your new home

Now it's time for browsing apartments. Admittedly, fancy pictures and prices play a gigantic part for future residents, but don't get trapped in the appearances.

Among the top concerns of students living off campus should be location. Again, you do not want to spend more than 30 minutes commuting between your home and campus. If you have a vehicle, things will work out more easily. If you don't, an apartment with a shuttle should be your top priority.

Choose a location that makes it possible to walk to campus in case there's a day your vehicle cannot drive or the shuttle is off duty.

### Look for the list of utilities on an apartment's information page

Pay attention to an in-unit washer and dryer if you are not used to a communal laundry room. If you have pets, also check to see if they are allowed in the units and how much you need to pay monthly for them.

Wi-Fi and air conditioners are necessities; also check with apartment offices if a water and electricity bill is included in your

unit. Whether or not the unit comes with furniture is also a very important aspect for student renters to consider.

### Go see your apartment in person, not virtually

Even if they can only show you how the sample houses look, you will find that sometimes pictures and the real houses are not the same thing. If you know anyone who lives in that apartment, ask about how they feel and make a visit.

More often than not, if many residents feel the same toward a certain aspect of your dream apartment, it's a persistent problem.

### Find the cheapest way to get your furniture organized

Fact: Units without furniture can be cheaper than apartments with furniture, even if you need to get a bunch of stuff ready. Apart from buying new furniture from Amazon or IKEA, Facebook Marketplace is a great resource where you can connect with other local people who want to sell their items at a good price.

They may not be fancy or fresh enough for people who are making Waco their home, but it is the most cost-efficient way to get furniture for out-of-state and international students who temporarily stay in Waco and want to live off campus.

### Know your lease: practical way to protect yourself legally

The best way to protect your rights as a student renter is to read — not browse over — your lease, understanding your responsibilities and having a sense of what to expect when living at this apartment. Check with the apartment office to see if your security deposit is refundable. Baylor also offers off-campus orientation for students to understand renter responsibilities.



Grace Everett | Photo Editor

**SURVIVAL GUIDE** Get ready for your off-campus home away from home with lists, organization, research and thoroughness in your preparation.

### Safety concerns: Lock your door every time you leave your apartment

In comparison with on-campus residence halls, where there are residence hall directors and other Baylor staff who keep things in order and keep students safe, it may not be the same living off campus.

Apartments that require ID or access cards are comparatively safer than those that are open to the streets. Either way, though, the priority is still to keep security measures in mind, with the first being locking your door every time you leave your unit.

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Josh McSwain | Baylor Roundup

**BUMP IT** Ursa bumps are driven on during move-in day.

# Ursa speed bumps or Mount Everest?

**CHARLIE WAILES**

Reporter



Speed bumps. Everyone has to deal with them, but as far as I know, most people don't seem to have an opinion on them. I do.

The speed bumps at the URSA apartments are unusually and annoyingly high. Why do I think they're too high? Picture someone driving 2 mph over them, only for their entire car to rattle and shake.

I remember the first time I unknowingly drove over the speed bumps two years ago. I was very excited to meet the person who would become my current girlfriend, but when I went over the speed bumps, I almost hit my head on the roof of my car.

At that moment, I thought, "Oh good heavens, did I accidentally run over something or somebody?" I hadn't. It was just the good old URSA speed bumps.

Let me offer a comparison. I live at University Parks Apartments, and I have to drive over multiple speed bumps every time I'm there. Does my car jump up and down from going over them? Absolutely not. I go on my merry way and think nothing of it. This is how it should be at URSA.

It's not like this is a problem with a singular speed bump at URSA. For anyone reading this who hasn't been over there, this is a problem with all of them. You've been warned.

If I understood this from URSA's point of view, maybe they were trying to slow down college students and prevent them from blowing around corners.

Am I being overdramatic? Maybe. But I might also have some validation.

My car has an automatic locking system on it. I had been driving it for two years before I came to Baylor, and nothing ever seemed to be amuck — that is, until I spent about two months driving over those speed bumps. My automatic locking system stopped working, and I couldn't quite figure out why. Whenever I drove over those things, I could hear a piece of something on the inside of the driver's side door moving around.

Yes, I do believe the speed bumps somehow broke the lock on the inside of my door. Is this enough proof to support my complaint? Perhaps. Other people may not agree, but that's probably because they don't live there or have to visit often.

I would slow down to a snail's pace, and the speed bumps would still make my car jump around a surprising amount. They probably won't ever get changed, but if they do, you can bet I'll jump for joy.



Olivia Havre | Photographer

**THE CHOICE IS YOURS** As students reflect on their dorm experience or apartment set-up, they have to ultimately decide between living with more or fewer roommates for up to a year.

# Roommates: More or fewer?

**GIO GENNERO**  
Sports Writer

With some time at Baylor under my belt, I've had everything from zero roommates to as many as four roommates. There are a lot of pros and cons to both, and these are the ones that have stood out most to me from my experiences.

Having no roommates is both an absolute vibe and super boring at the same time. On days when I needed space, or peace and quiet, I was able to detach from the world without having to ask for it. It was cool — until it wasn't.

The days of boredom started to pile up, and I found myself avoiding my room. If I wanted to have a social interaction, I had to get ready and leave my room because it wouldn't have made sense for multiple people to venture to one person. It's also hard to quickly find people to hang with because roommates were most likely already in pairs. So,

having no roommates can be both good and bad, depending on the day and your mood.

When you have more than one roommate, it's easily the most fun, but it also comes with the least amount of privacy. When I



had multiple roommates, there was always something popping off. It was so entertaining. There was always something happening, always someone to talk to — and doing things as a group was always fun.

However, other than when you're in your room, there is always someone around. So, if you're the type of person who doesn't like people constantly being there, I wouldn't recommend it.

I currently live with one other person, and I would say this is probably the best

balance for me. While I definitely miss the homies from my last apartment, this living situation is chilled down, and there is less going on. There is more alone time at the apartment, but there are still fun things going on at the same time.

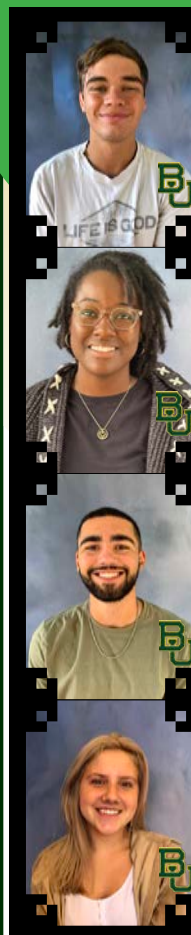
Living with one other person makes for a quieter place, but it's not noiseless. There's a balance to everything, and this turned out to be the best middle ground for me.

At the end of the day, it's more about who your roommates are and less about how many there are. My recommendation is to make sure you're mixing the right personalities, no matter how many people there are. Know yourself and what your preferences are regarding your personal at-home time.

Do yourself a favor and find roommates who are going to be good people to live with, not just fun to live with. You'll be thankful for it later.

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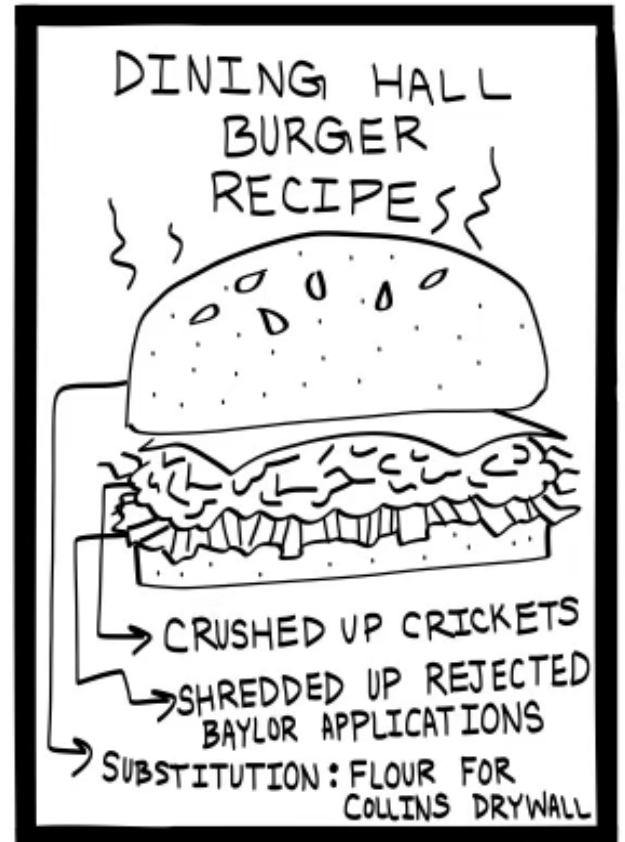
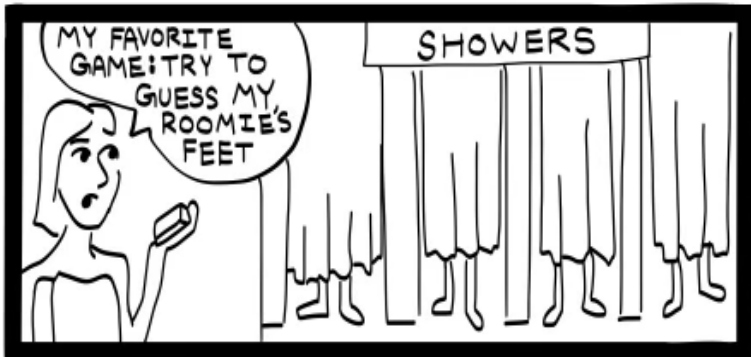
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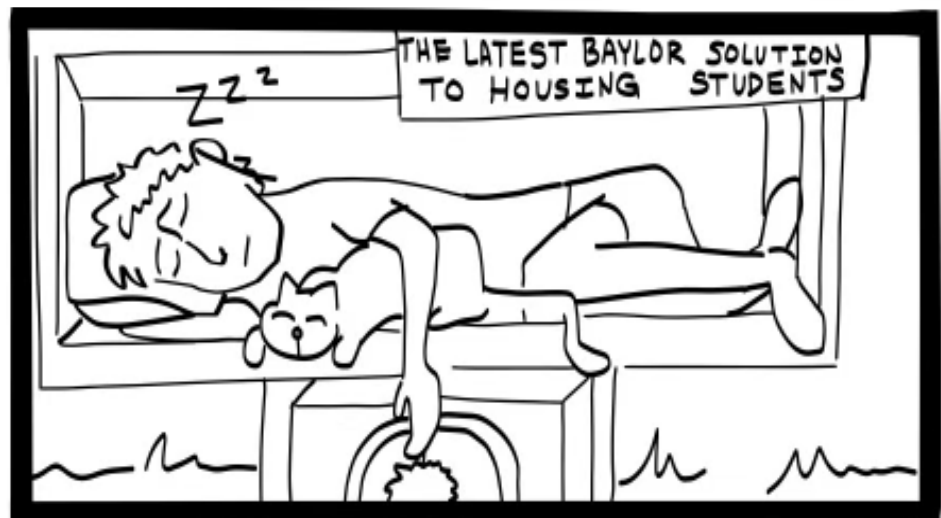
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# LARIAT LAUGHS



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# Texans vs. nonresidents: stories of coming to BU

**SAMI GARZA**  
Staff Writer

Between in-state and out-of-state students, experiences differ, especially when it comes to moving in to a new semester of college.

Federated States of Micronesia senior Jourdyn Adams said she was blessed to be able to travel across the U.S. throughout her life, but she had never been to Texas until she came to Baylor.

Adams said she came from a place where most of her leisure time was spent outdoors. When she came to Baylor, she sought out the outdoor adventure program and quickly found a community within it.

"I wasn't completely sure what to expect, but right off the bat, I slid into a great community that I felt I could relate to and had similar values to me," Adams said.

Adams said an advantage of being an international student was her ability to offer a new perspective, as well as to learn about new perspectives herself.

"As an international student, I've had a lot of opportunities to connect with people on different levels," Adams said.

A struggle of being an out-of-state student is moving in. While move-in is a short road trip for some, it was 50 hours of travel for Adams.

Adams said one of the biggest struggles of being an international student was her inability to drive around Waco. Since she didn't have her own vehicle, Adams would stay on campus for 12 hours.

"I spent crazy amounts of time either at Moody or at the SLC, just hoping I would run into someone that I knew just so that I could get a ride home,"



**U-MOVE, U-BUY IT** Students living out of state experience the struggles of finding a storage unit and fitting all of their belongings.

Adam said.

Baltimore senior Miguel Iglesias said Texas felt like a completely different culture compared to his home in Maryland. He said the moving in process was particularly challenging in his case.

"I had to fit everything I could in my suitcase and my parents' suitcases," Iglesias said.

For two summers, Iglesias left his belongings in a friend's apartment. Last summer he rented a storage unit, which he said was expensive.

Iglesias said it was hard to fit in at the beginning, not knowing a lot of people who were from Maryland forced him to find friendships outside of his comfort zone.

"Sometimes it gets lonely when you see all these people that know each other, and you're like, 'Man, I don't have that connection with people from back home here in Waco,'" Iglesias said.

Fort Worth junior Peach Storm said since she came to Baylor as a Texas native, she didn't experience culture shock because people speak, dress and eat the same things.

Although it was easier for her to acclimate to the Texas college culture than it was for out-of-state students, Storm said since in-state students come from a very similar place, they're not as open to new experiences at first.

"The first couple of times you meet someone from California or New York, they have a very different perspective than a native Texan, which is wonderful," Storm said. "But it's hard to be aware that there's so much you've never experienced, which can be a shock."

Throughout her move-in process, Storm said she was lucky enough to only live an hour and a half away, so she could easily go back and forth if she forgot something.

Storm said she was lucky when she moved out of her dorm because she was able to take everything home and didn't have pay for a storage unit.

Another advantage to being an in-state student was how easy it was for her to fit in and feel connected to the Baylor culture.



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