

Desk Research

Forum Post

In this post on a forum dedicated to various student concerns, the user “Malita” writes about problems she’s having with her flatmate, because of which the general mood in the flat is strained. In particular, because each of them cooks for themselves, the shared kitchen often becomes a problem. To avoid this, the roommate would like to always know whether Malita is home or not, and often texts her that she will need the kitchen at some specific time, expecting Malita to plan around that.

Malita writes about a specific instance that happened recently, where she was currently using the stove when her roommate demanded to use the kitchen right then and there because she had an appointment soon. Malita obviously wasn’t happy about the interruption but ended up giving in because she didn’t want to have another argument like they already sometimes had in the 2 years living together.

Flatify

Flatify is an app, designed to simplify living in a shared apartment. It enables users to create a cleaning plan with the tasks that should be done, along with how often and by whom. After someone does a chore, they are rewarded with stars, but in case that isn’t enough of an incentive, everyone can send the person responsible a reminder. It’s also possible to take over tasks from others, in case they happen to be too busy at the moment.

Besides that, it offers management of the finances, and debts can be immediately paid with PayPal. Again, it’s possible to remind flatmates of unpaid bills. It also has a shopping list feature, such that essential items never run out, but are also not bought multiple times by accident.

Additionally, users can also add events to a shared calendar, such that everyone can see the birthdays of others or who’s on vacation at the moment. It also enables users to tell the others in the flat about visitors early on or to indicate that they’ll be using the kitchen at some specific time.