

RoomieBuddy : A mobile application that will facilitate shared living

Project Abstract

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ABSTRACT

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According to a study published by Pew Research Center, nearly 79 million American adults lived in shared accommodation in 2017. Sharing accommodation can minimize living costs and help widen the social circle. Despite its financial and social appeal, shared living can lead to conflicts regarding the division of space and expenses. Transparent tracking of the shared costs, division of household chores, and coordination of roommates' schedules will help to keep conflicts at bay.

Addressing common roommate issues through in-person meetings has its challenges. To begin with, people may find it challenging to track the distribution of money and chores in person. Secondly, missing details during discussions can lead to unfair splits. Finally, this process is time-consuming and inefficient. Today, these tasks can be performed electronically with the help of mobile applications. However, multiple applications must be installed, as it is hard to find a single application that acts as a one-stop shop for all roommates' needs.

The goal of our application, RoomieBuddy, is to address these issues by providing an expense tracker that performs a fair split of the everyday household bills that occupants share. It will delegate chores to roommates, remind them when it is their turn and notify everyone on completion of tasks. It will allow the creation of shared grocery lists to stay on top of everyday needs. We seek to develop an easy-to-use mobile application to manage and address common cohabitation issues.