

Moving In Together: How to Know When the Time is Right



By Nisha Ramirez

For many couples, moving in together is a gradual process. It starts when you leave a toothbrush at your partner's house after a few nights and suddenly they have more of their shirts than you can count tucked away in your top drawer. However, other couples view moving in as an equivalent to getting married, which can be intimidating. Either way, deciding to share space with another person is something that you don't want to rush into. After all, everyone shows their true nature once you become roommates with them, and sometimes that's not pretty. Here are some ways to know when the time is right to move in together:

1. You sleep in the same bed every night: No matter where you go during the day, if the night always ends with a big sleepover, chances are you're ready to move in together. Coming home to the same partner is a huge step that really shows you're committed. Although moving in together entails a lot more than just sleeping in the same bed every night, this can be a great sign that you and your beau are able to coexist happily.

2. You share huge purchases: If you and your partner share big purchases like electronics or even pets, you're already displaying signs of co-ownership. Being able to share expensive and treasured objects says a lot about your future together in a new home. Living together means learning to share bills, living spaces and a bathroom, so it's good if you're able to start somewhere.

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3. You both want to live together: Moving in together isn't something that you spring on a person. It should never be a surprise, so that means don't give a birthday gift of keys to your apartment. Talk to your partner and see how they feel about taking this big step. If you aren't on the same page about living [together](#), then you won't be able to coexist for very long.

4. You are okay with giving up some of your independence: Sharing a place means having to let your significant other decide on a few things. Are you not going to be home on time? Are you taking a trip with your friends? Because you are both living under the same roof, you need to be respectful of your partner and be ready to let go of some of your independence. However, it's important to not become too dependent on them.

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5. You're able to find your own space: If you get into an argument with your partner and you two live together, you can't pack a small bag and spend the night at your apartment. Instead, you have to know how to find your own space to clear your head within that same household. Before you make the decision to move in together, work on your communication and relaxation skills. Had a fight? Try locking the bathroom door and having some me time while regrouping in a hot bath. You may be living together, but you have to know how to be solo as well.

How do you know when the time is right to move in together?