
Vocabulary: renting 词汇: 租房

Grimy coffee cups, dirty clothes all over the floor and uninvited guests – and they're not even yours! These are the joys of flatsharing. So why do we do it? Well, for many, buying a **house** or **flat** is just too expensive. In fact, according to the Guardian, the total amount of **rent** paid by **tenants** in Britain in 2017 rose to more than £50 billion – more than double the level of ten years prior. And for those who do, many choose to share the place with strangers to save money. You rent a room and share the kitchen, living room and bathroom, for example. But apart from the financial saving, what are the pros and cons of flatsharing?

The pros? Well, living with others means that you can pool your resources. You may not even need to ask; just leave an **IOU**. Then there's the fact that you gain access to their **social networks**. Living with people means meeting their friends, who may then become your friends. And don't forget the **networking** opportunity. Lastly, there's the **emotional support**. Due to the nature of **communal** living, you're not just dealing with your own life events, but other people's too. Most likely, there'll always be a **shoulder to cry on** when you need one. But don't forget to **reciprocate** when they need it.

Now the cons. There's limited **storage space**, for a start. In most cases, the kitchen, for example, will be **divvied up** into **designated** shelves and areas. Worse, many people may not respect these boundaries. You might well come home to find someone's **pilfered** your milk or shower gel, and no one **owns up** to it. Furthermore, despite the rota showing that cleaning is everyone's responsibility, some people don't like to **pull their weight**. And then there are the unexpected guests. If a **flatmate** forgets to **keep you in the loop** about a party they're throwing and all you want is a quiet night, it can be challenging.

Whether the pros outweigh the cons is something everyone must decide for themselves. Some people prefer their own space, while others thrive in a social environment. Regardless, for many who lack the means to buy their own **property**, a flatshare is, and will continue to be, a necessity.

词汇表

house	房子, 住宅
flat	公寓, 单元房
rent	房租
tenant	租户, 租房客
IOU	欠条 (I owe you 的缩写)
social network	(某人的) 社交网络
networking	建立人脉
emotional support	精神支持
communal	共享的, 公共的
a shoulder to cry on	可以倾诉的对象
reciprocate	回报
storage space	存储空间
divvy up	分享
designated	指定的
pilfer	小偷小摸
own up	承认, 坦白
pull your weight	献上自己的力量
flatmate	合住一套公寓的人
keep you in the loop	给你及时提供消息
property	房产

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. True or false: *More rent is being paid in Britain than 10 years ago.*
2. Which rooms are commonly shared in a flatshare?
3. What can you do if you need to borrow something and no one is around to ask?
4. How can flatsharing help your career?
5. What is there often a lack of in a flatshare?

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. He just borrowed the car and left me an _____. He didn't even ask!

IUO	IOU	OIU	UIO
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2. I love my best friend. She's always a _____ when I feel sad.

neck to cry on	hip to cry on	leg to cry on	shoulder to cry on
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3. Once they had escaped with the money, the robbers _____ it up.

borrowed	pilfered	divvied	owned
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4. My manager asked me to send an email and keep her _____ about developments.

in the loop	in the hoop	on the stoop	in the coop
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5. If we all _____ our money, we could buy a house together!

Borrow	reciprocate	lend	pool
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. True or false: *More rent is being paid in Britain than 10 years ago.*

True. In 2017 rent paid rose to more than £50 billion – more than double the level of ten years prior.

2. Which rooms are commonly shared in a flatshare?

You rent a room and share the kitchen, living room and bathroom.

3. What can you do if you need to borrow something and no one is around to ask?

Leave an IOU.

4. How can flatsharing help your career?

Living with people means meeting their friends, which is a great networking opportunity.

5. What is there often a lack of in a flatshare?

There is often limited storage space.

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. He just borrowed the car and left me an **IOU** He didn't even ask!

2. I love my best friend. She's always a **shoulder to cry on** when I feel sad.

3. Once they had escaped with the money, the robbers **divvied** it up.

4. My manager asked me to send an email and keep her **in the loop** about developments.

5. If we all **pool** our money, we could buy a house together!