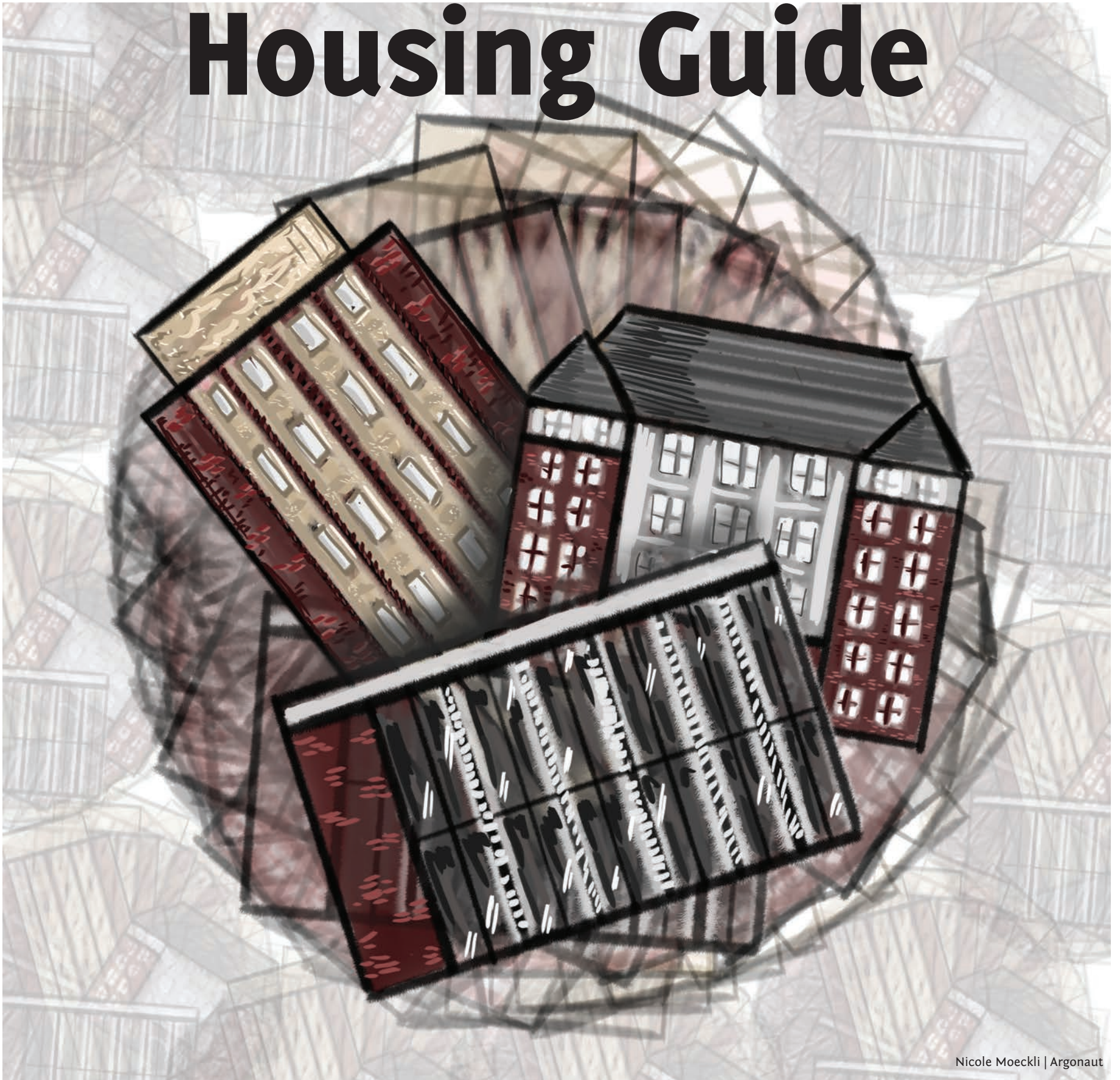


The Argonaut

Housing Guide



UI housing options

WALLACE RESIDENCE CENTER

Ballard

- 1st floor — Coed of any academic major
- 2nd floor — Coed floor for any academic major

Available for sophomore through senior undergraduate students, graduate students, and transfer students

**3rd and 4th floor currently unavailable*

Gooding

- Six coed floors for first-year students of any academic major

Stevenson

- Four coed floors for first-year students of any academic major

**currently unavailable*

Willey

- Six coed floors for first-year students of any academic major

LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITIES

- CNR LLC — open to any student who is a College of Natural Resources major
- Engineering & Computer Science LLC — open to sophomore to graduate level students who are engineering majors
- Gault, LLC 3, Syringa and Gem LLC — open to sophomore to graduate level students in any academic major
- Scholars LLC — open to sophomore to graduate level students in UI's Honors Program or have a GPA of 3.3 or higher
- Upham LLC — open to first-year students only

THEOPHILUS TOWER

- 1st, 4th and 6th floors — all—female floor for any academic major
- 2nd, 3rd and 5th floors — all—male floor for any academic major
- 7th and 8th floors — all—male floor for engineering or computer science majors
- 9th floor — all—female floor for students involved in the Women in Idaho Science and Engineering (WiiSE) program
- 10th floor — all—female floor for students in UI Honors Program
- 11th floor — all—male floor for students in UI Honors Program

Greek

Sororities

- Alpha Gamma Delta
- Kappa Delta Kappa
- Kappa Gamma Pi
- Delta Gamma
- Gamma Phi Beta
- Kappa Alpha Theta
- Alpha Phi Delta
- Delta Zeta

Fraternities

- Alpha Gamma Rho
- Sigma Chi
- Alpha Kappa Lambda
- FarmHouse
- Kappa Sigma
- Delta Sigma Phi
- Sigma Alpha

- Epsilon Phi Gamma Delta (FIJI) Theta
- Delta Tau Delta
- Phi Kappa Tau
- Beta Theta Pi
- Pi Kappa Phi
- Lambda Chi Alpha
- Theta Chi
- Sigma Nu
- Pi Kappa Alpha*

**Doesn't provide chapter housing*

UI also has several multicultural Greek chapters that don't provide housing.

MEAL PLANS

All incoming freshmen have to purchase a food plan. Students who are sophomores or older living in Living Learning Communities do not have to purchase a meal plan.

Vandal Premiere is \$2,051 and includes unlimited meals at Bob's Place all day, \$50 Vandal Dollars.

Vandal Prestige is \$2,039 and includes unlimited meals per week only from 11:00 a.m. to close at Bob's Place, \$200 Vandal Dollars.

Vandal Pride is \$1,822 and contains 150 block meals and \$200 Vandal dollars. Block meals span the entirety of the semester and expire each semester.

Block meals are meals that can be used at Bob's Place, throughout a semester.

Vandal Dollars can be used at all campus dining locations, including Einstein Bro Bagels, Chick-fil-a, Jamba Juice, Denny's, and Starbucks. Vandal Dollars can also be used at residence hall vending machines and the VandalStore.

Unlimited meals can be used during every meal period during a semester

First-year perspective

The Tower helps new students adjust to college life in a family-like setting

Hailey Stewart
Argonaut

For first-year students at the University of Idaho living in the dorms can be daunting, but the Theophilus Tower cushions the transition from home to college.

Taller than any other residence building on campus, the Tower stands high at 11 floors along with a multi-functional basement. Unlike other residence communities, each level of the tower is either all-male or all-female and ranges from 30 to 40 residents per floor. Each floor is complete with a shared bathroom and a furnished common area.

Maddi Degenshein, a Tower resident and sixth floor representative, said her original plan was to live in the Wallace Residence Center, but she ended up living in the Tower instead — something she considers fortunate.

Degenshein said there are both pros and cons to living in the Tower — or

any residence hall — but the pros of the Tower outweigh the cons. The water does not always taste the best, and 40 girls using the bathroom over a long weekend can make for a less than desirable space, but she said these are just small issues no matter where students choose to live on campus. Degenshein also said that even when the elevators often break, they are fixed almost immediately, and the maintenance staff for the Tower does a great job of creating a clean, safe environment.

“It is kind of like an endless sleepover with all of your friends, and your parents can’t tell you to go to bed,” Degenshein said.

This sleepover-like feel is what appeals most to Degenshein about the environment in the Tower because it quickly made the building feel more like home.

Ashlee Mulberry, a Tower resident, also found that the Tower carries a feel of family and home.

“Compared to Wallace and the LLC’s

(Living and Learning Communities), the living style of the Tower is a much more traditional college experience,” Mulberry said.

She said having a community bathroom that is cleaned everyday is appealing because freshman are just beginning to learn to live on their own, so having a regularly cleaned bathroom helps.

“I would just say overall that the Tower is the best place to live because it is clean, welcoming and fun,” Mulberry said.

Degenshein said in the Tower, study groups and clubs occur often within dorm rooms and common areas.

“I started a club called ‘Tea-Tox’ which actually just started out as people coming into our room and drinking tea with us and talking about their day,” Degenshein said. “Then we decided to make an actual club out of it.”

She said the club brought in first-year students not just from the Tower,

but from other residence communities as well. Tea-Tox ended up being a bi-weekly meeting group with plenty of tea and conversation.

Degenshein said the Tower is a great place to meet different people and learn outside of the classroom.

“There are so many different majors, so if I need help with chemistry homework I just go up three floors and there is my tutor,” she said.

Both Degenshein and Mulberry recommend the Tower to first-year students because the overall environment is welcoming and helpful.

“We have 11 stories of other people to visit with and we are all friends,” Degenshein said. “There is always an endless supply of something to do.”

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Different dorms, same great community

Theophilus Tower and the Wallace Complex both have features that are ideal for first-year students

Diamond Koloski
Argonaut

First-year students beginning their college experience in the fall will have two main options for housing: two of the four Wallace Complex wings or the Theophilus Tower.

“Wallace really is the hub. It has the dining hall, academic success center, biggest basement, best computer lab space and the mailboxes are right there,” said Jennifer Skinner, the Housing & Residence Life Customer Relations Manager.

She said for fall 2016, the first-year wings of Wallace (Gooding and Willey) will be completely renovated. Some of

these changes include new carpet, new tile, new drapes, updated vents, wireless Internet and a fresh coat of paint.

Skinner said Wallace will look much brighter and more modern compared to pre-renovations.

The Tower has yet to get similar renovations, but Skinner said about 50 more students so far have chosen Tower for their home next year compared to those who have chosen Wallace.

Jesus Vargas, the Resident Advisor in the Stevenson wing of Wallace was an RA in the Tower last year, and said the Tower is the better choice for outgoing students.

“The Tower is very social, interactive and an easy place for students to make new friends,” Vargas said.

One reason for the difference is that Wallace has fire-safe doors, which always have to be closed. Vargas said that makes it harder to meet people on your floor because they can’t interact as easily as in the Tower.

Vargas said Wallace rooms have more

storage space for school supplies, and the Tower has more storage space for clothing items.

Vargas and Skinner both said there are many differences between the Tower and Wallace.

The Tower has single-gender floors, with engineering and honor themed floors. Each room is split down the middle with identical amenities on each side. A community bathroom and floor lounge is located in the center of each floor.

On the other hand, Wallace has single-gender suites, but co-ed floors. The suite styled rooms come with bunk beds and a shared desk space. The bathroom is located between the two dorm rooms.

Vargas said he has noticed that Wallace takes more communication between roommates, because it isn’t always clear where the line is drawn between each roommate’s space, where as in the Tower, there is one half of the room for each person.

Vargas said as an RA he has heard complaints and praises about both dorms.

He said residents in the Tower like that they don’t have to clean a bathroom, but often complain about the “important stuff” being in Wallace.

“Lots of students also like to play ping pong, air hockey, and pool in the Wallace basement,” Vargas said. “Those aren’t really available in the Tower.”

Vargas suggested that students who are shy but want to make new friends should strongly consider the Tower, while students who like their own space most of the time should consider Wallace.

He said that those are good general guidelines, but that many other factors may take precedence, and it all depends on the kind of experience students are looking for.

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OPINION

Choosing sorority life

Going Greek can impact a student's college experience for the better

Many of the Greek students I've spoken to didn't think they were the type of person to be in a fraternity or sorority before they came to college, and yet they are all so glad they decided to rush anyway.

I was the same way. I didn't choose to join a sorority until my second year at the University of Idaho because I believed all of the negative stereotypes about Greek life. But I had never seen any of those stereotypes confirmed at UI, or any other college I visited for that matter. I simply fell for the rumors I heard from other people who weren't Greek and didn't know any-

one who was Greek.

Now I'm embarrassed that I believed all the bad things I heard about sororities and fraternities. It's hard not to have doubts when there is so much of a stigma about Greek life, but I can't imagine any of my sorority sisters acting anything like the "typical sorority girl" I had heard so much about.

During my first semester as a freshman at UI, I noticed that the Greek students were not matching up with what I believed. Most of them earned good grades, had more fun and were highly involved in the campus and Moscow community.

Before the end of my first year, I was positive that going Greek was the best way to make the most out of my experience at UI, but I was still hesitant to register for recruitment because of what my old friends might think of me.



Erin Bamer
Argonaut

Almost everyone I knew was confident that I would hate sorority life because I "wasn't the type." To be fair, I was definitely the socially awkward nerd in high school. I still am not the type to fit in a sorority from an '80s movie. Thankfully, almost every sorority I've seen is nothing like what we see in movies.

I found the right sorority for me and loved it from my first day, regardless of what others believed. Everything I had observed about Greek students the previous year turned out to be true for me, too. My grades went up, I had way more fun and I felt more connected to the entire community.

But that's because I worked for it. I participated in philanthropy events for my sorority and for other houses. I got to know my sorority sisters and worked with them when we had the same classes.

What a student gets out of their Greek experience all depends on how much effort they put into it. Going Greek only provides us with the opportunity to make the most out of our college experience. Fulfillment doesn't just happen on its own. We have to work to make it happen.

If a prospective student is unsure about joining Greek life — especially if it's because they don't think they fit the "typical Greek type" — they should definitely take the time to learn about all of the fraternities and sororities at UI. There are so many houses that most people find the perfect fit for them, and later they can't imagine going through college any other way.

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Two years and going strong

The Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity brings academics, service to the Greek system

Kevin Neighbors
Argonaut

Pi Kappa Phi fraternity has been on campus for two years and is now a house of 36 men. Many of the members living in the house are founding fathers and helped to establish Pi Kappa Phi's presence at the University of Idaho.

Will Kennedy is a sophomore at UI and a founding father of Pi Kappa Phi. He rushed the house as a freshman and said he loves Pi Kappa Phi because the men offer a genuine experience to their members from the very beginning.

Kennedy said the greatest thing Pi Kappa Phi has to offer is the opportunity to form a brotherhood with guys you can be yourself around. He said when he began rushing, he knew right away that he belonged in Pi Kappa Phi.

"There were a lot of options at a lot of different places that I really didn't like, but it was difficult after the first day, and I was feeling down on my luck," Kennedy said. "Once I got to PiKapp, I realized I didn't have to be afraid of feeling uncomfortable, or not knowing what I was looking for."

Kennedy said the men of Pi Kappa Phi follow a set of pillars that help to guide them in their college years and after. The house prides itself on upholding character, leadership, academics, service and sportsmanship. He said these tenants define parts of he and his brothers' personalities. He also

said these qualities helped him to learn about others without judgment and to keep in good academic standing.

"I'm definitely more scholastic for joining PiKapp," Kennedy said. "I'm on top of my grades more than I would have if I wasn't Greek. It matters to me — being in charge of other people's grades, to have good grades myself, it's important."

Blake Coker is a sophomore at UI and a first-year member at Pi Kappa Phi.

"I was looking for a place — it sounds cheesy — but somewhere that accepted you for who you were," Coker said.

Coker said one of the most promising aspects of Pi Kappa Phi is the philanthropic opportunity offered to members. One of these opportunities is the "Ability Experience."

Coker said the "Ability Experience" is an opportunity for members to help build

campus for those less fortunate.

"I would never have the ability to do that if it weren't for Pi Kappa Phi," Coker said.

Coker and Kennedy both said that these opportunities are crucial to their college experience.

"To have the opportunity to go and help someone, regardless of your intention, changes someone's life be it yours or the people you're helping. A change happens," Kennedy said.

Kennedy said he was able to put many negative things in his life behind him because Pi Kappa Phi taught him to be a better person.

"If you live your life to be a better person, you act like it, that's going to get you farther in life," Coker said.

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OPINION

On the hunt for housing

Students should be open to trying new things when it comes to living on or off campus

Three months into my first semester at the University of Idaho, I was done with the dorms. While I didn't mind my living situation, I just knew that it wasn't right for me. Not only was the small, dark space that was my room difficult to study in, it also lacked privacy. Sharing a suite with three other people, few doors and thin walls created an environment I was uncomfortable living in. My dorm room felt more like a transitory space than a home and I knew moving into an apartment was the right decision for me.

There are some clear benefits to choosing an off-campus lifestyle.

First and foremost, the majority of off-campus living options cost less

than living in the dorms. While certain apartment complexes, like The Grove, are slightly more expensive than living on-campus, most rental agencies around town offer quality, inexpensive places to live. Renting a house with multiple people is also a less expensive alternative to on-campus housing.

Off-campus living eliminates the expense of a food plan as well, which can cost far more than shopping at a super market.

With most apartments, students can choose either a nine or 12-month lease. This means students who are interested in staying in town for the summer can do so with relative convenience, while those who leave

for the summer don't have to pay rent while they're gone. Some agencies, like Palouse Properties, will even cut rent in half over the summer for three and four bedroom apartments.



Corrin Bond
Argonaut

While off-campus living is relatively less expensive and provides more individual freedom and space than on-campus options, not all situations are the same. As a transfer student living on a non-first year floor in Wallace, I didn't feel like I was receiving the social benefits that dorms usually provide. I had many friends living off campus, which meant I spent most weekends trekking back and forth between the dorms and apartment complexes around Moscow.

Moving into an apartment was the right decision for me, but that doesn't mean it's right for everyone.

Even apartments located on the outskirts of campus aren't as close to the heart of the university as on-campus housing options are. Going grocery shopping, making every meal and packing food to go also takes up a large chunk of time every week.

It's not as easy to deal with noisy neighbors when there isn't a residence

assistant living a couple of doors down from you and when your fridge breaks down late at night, there's no 24-hour maintenance hotline at your disposal.

On-campus housing provides more convenience for students, but living off-campus prepares students for life after college, as it prompts them to understand leasing agreements, cook their own meals and budget out monthly expenses.

While living on-campus is something every traditional incoming student should experience, experimenting with housing options isn't a bad idea. There's nothing wrong with students staying in the dorms after their first year, but it's also a good idea for students to consider transitioning into a different on-campus living environment, like the LLCs, or give off-campus apartments and houses a chance.

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OPINION

Getting the perfect apartment

Planning an apartment search makes the process easy, exciting

Welcome to the world of apartment renting. Here are a few tips for both first-time renters and those who are simply moving around Moscow.

Finding an apartment

Searching for an apartment can be rough at the start, but once started, the task becomes pretty easy. Start by checking out rental companies in the area. A simple Google search will provide more than enough information. Craigslist can also serve as one of the best ways to find an apartment and is worth looking into.

Choosing an apartment

With all of the options for apartment renting in Moscow, it can be difficult to make a decision. First, it's important to consider what the ideal location is. Consider whether or not close proximity to campus is a priority. On-campus apartments do exist, but are generally more expensive. However, the cost is offset by the ease of commute.

There are great apartments near Main Street and others that aren't as close. These are more house-like but they may be cheaper. Options like this are good for those

who want extra space and don't mind a longer commute.

It is also important to consider the length of the lease. Remember that some leases are more flexible than others.

Rounding up roommates

Finding potential roommates is an exciting part of renting an apartment. Having a roommate saves money, but it's important to find a good roommate. Choose someone trustworthy. If you are a clean freak, choose a roommate who shares that value. If you aren't particular about the state of your apartment, choose a roommate who lives a more relaxed life style. When renting, be sure that all roommates will take good care of the apartment and meet each month's rental dues.



Kevin Douglas
Neighbors
Argonaut

Questions to keep in mind

When getting a pet it is important to check the apartment building's rules regarding animals. Electricity, gas and water are often included in monthly rent; however, this is not always the case and should be clarified before the lease is signed. The best part of renting an apartment is having a designated parking space, but not every building allocates enough room, so check out the parking situation before

moving forward.

The application process

For first time renters, the application process can be a stressful endeavor. To relieve some of that stress, it is important to remember to have key pieces of paperwork and certain information ready.

Driver's license and social security number are essential. Social security numbers may be used for a background checks as well as a credit check. In regards to credit, not all property companies require a credit score, but they may require a cosigner.

Next, you will need to have an application from the company you are renting from. Remember to read the entire application and lease and ask any necessary questions before signing anything.

Moving in

Once the application is accepted, it is time to set a move-in date. You can always hire movers, but it much easier and more fun to ask your friends for help. Buy everyone some pizza, throw a little housewarming party and make a day of it.

Kevin Douglas Neighbors can be reached at arg-opinion@uidaho.edu

OPINION

Confessions of a recovering coffee-holic

A guide to finding caffeine on campus

One of the staples of any college student's life is caffeine. Whether that is in the form of coffee, tea or energy drinks, caffeine is a necessity to surviving exams.

Luckily there are plenty of places to refill the caffeine gauge on campus.

Starbucks

Starbucks, located across from the Bruce Pitman Center in the Vandal Bookstore, is an easy place to meet up with friends and have some coffee. This Starbucks is similar to the one near the Palouse Mall, but closer for students who are on their way to class. Starbucks is also

a bit more expensive than other options especially when it comes to frappuccinos rather than simple coffee.

Nevertheless, Starbucks is a simple place to satisfy any caffeine need.



Claire Whitley
Argonaut

Einstein Bros Bagels

Einstein's is known for bagels, but it also has several different coffee and tea options as well. Students can bring in their own mug, pay for a refill and try any of the three or four types of drip coffee offered. It usually offers Hazelnut coffee, regular

French roast and Brazilian black roast. Like Starbucks, they also offer mochas and lattes as well as blended coffees with whip cream.

Einstein's is a one stop shop when it comes to breakfast and caffeine.

Stover's

If the only thing needed to get students up and going is pure, simple coffee, Stover's is the place to go. This little café is located in the Albertson Building and is tucked away in a place that normally only business and economics students can find.

Stover's only offers drip coffee provided by Starbucks, so it isn't necessary to search through a list of lattes or cappuccinos. For \$2, students can get a simple, hot cup of coffee without having to worry about sweeteners or chocolate or whip cream. If they bring their own mug with them, the coffee is cheaper.

While there, don't forget to order a breakfast burrito, it goes great with a cup of coffee.

One World Cafe

One World Café is the newest addition to the campus coffee scene. It recently took over the Sisters' Brew location in the Janssen Engineering Building and can also be found in the Administration Building. One World is a café downtown that is immensely popular, so their business on campus seems to be doing well, too. For a quick stop to get a caffeine fix, One World is the right place. There is a small study table as well for students looking to do homework before or after class, but the shop isn't tailored to hold a lot of people at any one time.

One World has lattes, cappuccinos, mochas and just about anything a coffee-holic could want.

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OPINION

Proximity vs. independence

There are pros and cons to living both in the LLC's and off campus

As a freshman in my first semester at the University of Idaho, I lived in the Wallace Residence Center. It was the ultimate first-year dorm experience — a bunk bed, linoleum floor, the whole works. As I contemplated my second-year housing choices, both the Living Learning Communities and an off-campus apartment were appealing options. After weighing the pros and cons of each, I chose the Living and Learning Community (LLC). However, this semester as I considered my third-year options, I chose to find an off-campus apartment. Here are some factors that came into play as I weighed my options and ultimately chose my housing path.

Cost

There is no sugarcoating it — living in the LLC's is expensive. Because I go to school

primarily on scholarships, this housing option was viable for me, but it may not be for everyone. Two semesters (approximately 10 months) in the LLC's costs over \$6,000, while a two-bedroom apartment in Moscow averages \$400 a month including all expenses: water, electricity, Internet, etc.

Convenience

Living in the LLC's this year has no doubt been a pleasure in terms of proximity to campus. I can run back to my room during short breaks between classes if I happen to forget a required book, or I desperately need a bite to eat from my own fridge. Convenience doesn't stop at proximity to my classes. Another huge plus of living in the LLC's is the fact that everything is paid for in one chunk at the start of each semester. I have no periodic bills like I

will when I move into my apartment. Even further, the LLC's are fully furnished upon move-in — no need to haul a desk or mattress from home. Convenience is something I will hugely miss when I move off campus.

Kitchen

I am currently learning to cook for myself and I am loving it. What I don't love, however, is sharing a kitchen space with dozens of other students in the LLC. I have to make sure I have all of my ingredients, utensils and other required materials with me before I head downstairs to use one of the two ovens in my LLC. I didn't realize how much this would deter me from making my own nutritious meals — more often than not, I can be found microwaving frozen meals in my room simply because I hate the hassle of using a frequently messy shared space. I am beyond ready to settle into my apartment kitchen.

Independence

This really comes down to personal preference, but I am anxious to begin my journey as an off-campus student. The independence that comes with moving into the Moscow community and branching into true adulthood is something I feel I am ready for. Still, the LLC's were an excellent place to transition from the bunk bed life to a more apartment-like setting.

The activities offered by the UI Residence Hall Association to those living on campus are great, and consistently being surrounded by my peers was often a comfort, but I feel ready to move on. Props to RHA for providing such an accommodating, fun space over the last two years, but my new place on Baker Street is calling my name.

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Lyndsie Kiebert
Argonaut

OPINION

Do's and don'ts of move in

Dorm move-in day can be a breeze with these tips

Whether it is your first time moving into the dorms or you are a seasoned professional, dorm move in day can be one of the most stressful days for a college student. Creating a home for the year in such a small space and in a short amount of time can be both exciting and terrifying. Here are a few do's and don'ts for the day so you can be fully prepared and make the most of the experience.

Do:

Pack well

Packing boxes and suitcases correctly is one of the most important steps to creating a successful move. When packing, label all of your boxes with big letters and bright colors so you can easily find the items you want to unpack.

Organize

In order to keep yourself organized, bring a small backpack or bag to keep with you at all times throughout your move. In the bag, keep your paperwork, school forms, orientation itinerary (if you are a first-year student) and most importantly your keys and ID card.

Get to know your roommate

With all of the busyness of the day, it is easy to forget to acknowledge your roommate. Set aside a few minutes to chat and get rid of the awkwardness before you begin an entire year of living with one another.

Fill out paperwork

The most boring aspect of move-in day is definitely filling

out the necessary forms and paperwork. However, you should get this step out of the way as soon as possible so that the rest of your day can be spent unpacking and settling in.

Clean

Even if your dorm room looks spotless, remember, it has been sitting all summer, collecting dust and germs. Bring cleaning supplies to wipe down tabletops and the insides of drawers. A quick clean over your side of the room will make all the difference when moving your belongings in.

Don't:

Over pack your room

Whether you plan on bringing a caravan of family members or just yourself to move in, the fewer bodies you have in your room, the better. Between you and your

roommate, there are bound to be several crammed bodies in one place, so don't bring too many people along.

Unpack too much

Don't unpack all at once. It can be tempting to take everything you have out of your car and haul it straight into your dorm, but this can add more stress to an even more stressful day. Unpack your boxes and luggage in waves according to what is inside.

Forget to eat

Midway through the stress of unpacking and getting used to the craziness around you, both hunger and thirst are going to kick in. Don't forget to snack, keep hydrated and rest throughout the day. Take a break and make sure to grab a bite to refuel for the rest of the moving process.

Decorate all at once

Giving your dorm a homey feel means decorating and adding personal touches. Posters, pictures and other accessories can all be added to your dorm over time. Don't rush the decorating process; give yourself the extra time to make your side of the dorm feel just like home.

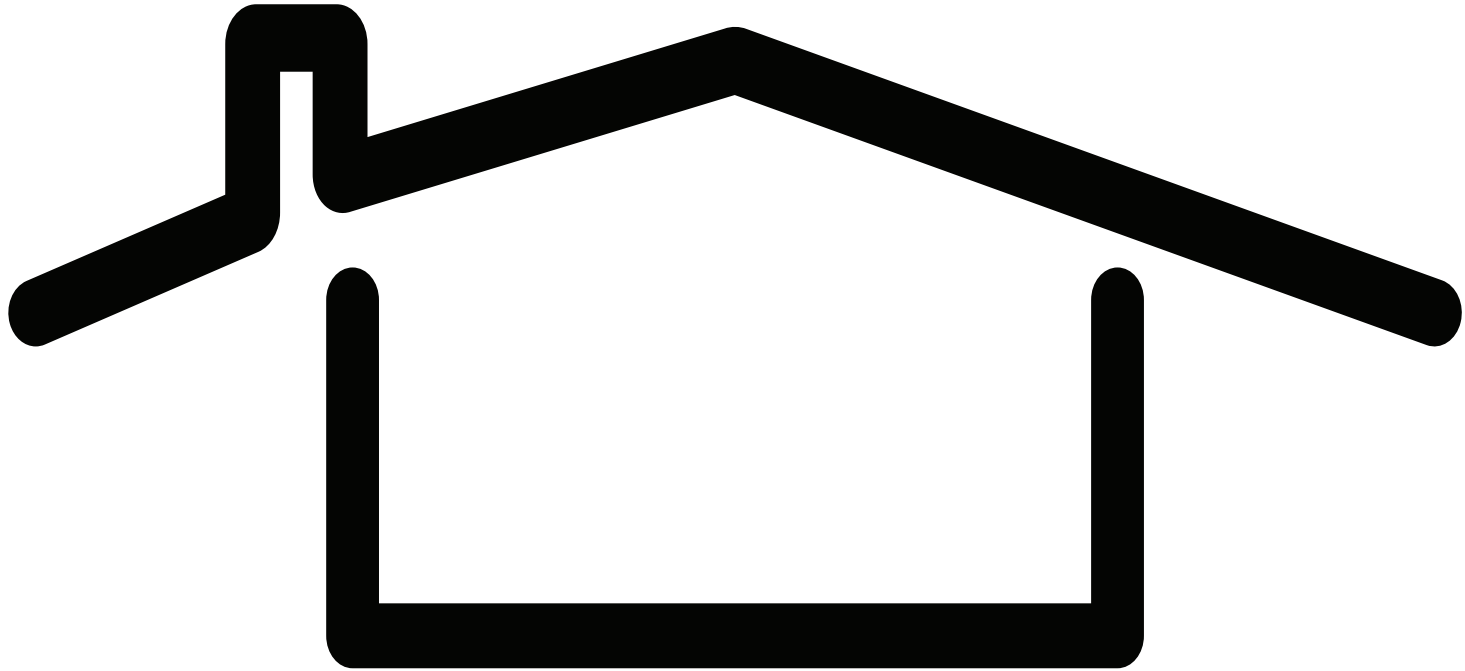
Miss out on the excitement

Dorm move-in day is the perfect day to roam the campus and make new friends, even if you are moving in for the fourth time. Though it can be stressful, don't forget to enjoy the experience.

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Argonaut



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