

Moving Into Your Residence Hall? Do it SUSTAINABLY!



Hello, incoming freshmen and transfer students! We student interns at the College of

Charleston Office of Sustainability bet we know what your last couple of weeks before your move to Charleston have been like.

Your parents are urging you to **get every food, cleaning and school supply in the universe**. You're trying to decide if you need to bring your winter clothes and hoping your **randomly-assigned roommate** won't be obnoxious.



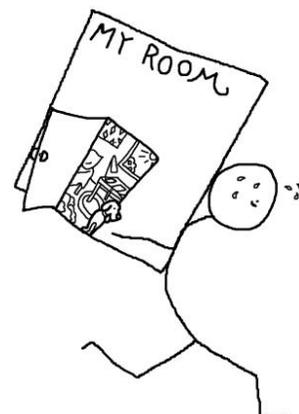
You're prepping your dog for your absence, hanging out with your high school buddies, and **scanning the College of Charleston facebook page daily for new potential friends**. You're hoarding posters and other room-decorating materials with a half-imagined plan of how you're going to make your room the **COOLEST ROOM COLLEGE HAS EVER SEEN**.



You've got a lot on your mind – but are you thinking about the waste your move will generate? Probably not. Here are some tips on how to cut down on waste from some kids that have done it all before. ♻️

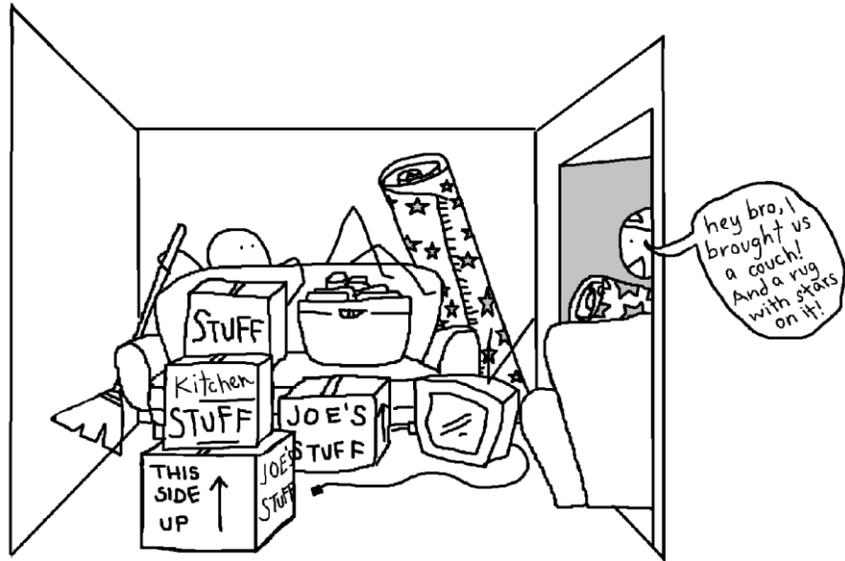


Look online at reslife.cofc.edu to determine if there are common areas, private bathrooms and kitchen appliances. You can also look at the dimensions of existing furniture. **Don't plan on bringing your entire room from home with you.**

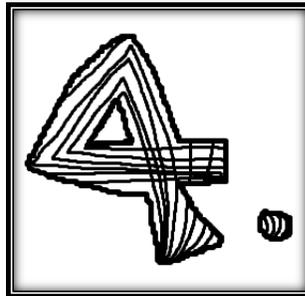
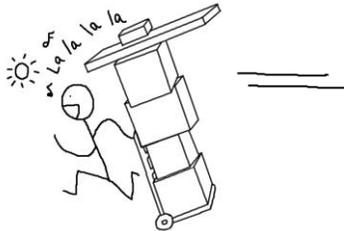




Get in touch with your new roommate ahead of time and coordinate with them on who's bringing what – you can share items like rugs, televisions, and cleaning supplies. Also, you don't have to bring everything in advance! **A trip to the nearest consignment store** could be fun and help you guys get to know each other better.



Plastic garbage bags rip and tear. Cardboard boxes can be stacked on a dolly and can be recycled or flattened and stored to be used when you move again!



Things are going to get lost and broken and beat up and vomited on - so **buy your appliances second-hand!** Use up the school supplies

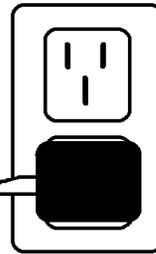
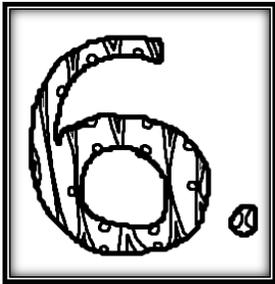
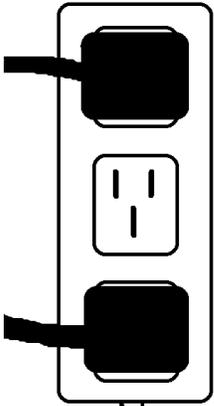
you already have before going out and buying ANOTHER round of notebooks for each class that will each only be used a third of the way through.



Ask move-in volunteers where to properly dispose of waste and recycling. Charleston County recycles glass bottles and jars, aluminum and steel cans and aerosols, plastics 1-7 (except plastic bags, plastic wrap and styrofoam) and all paper (including shredded), paperboard and cardboard. Be sure to remove the lids off plastic bottles, as they can jam the machinery at the recycle plant.



Get a power strip with a surge protector. It will be your best friend because now you'll have enough plug space for all of your electrical devices. It will be the environment's best friend because it makes it very convenient for you to turn the power supply to all your devices off at the same time. Google "phantom loads" if you've never heard of them. Electrical appliances are greedy energy guzzlers all the time they're plugged in, not just when they're turned on.



You know what really makes a residence hall feel less like a soothing home environment? Fruit flies. Don't rely on disposable plates and cups that will make your trash stinky; bring a reusable set of dishes. This doesn't mean you need 10 pounds of silverware. Believe us, a few reusable sets of dishes and place settings to serve twenty are the way to go if you want your kitchen minimal amount of cleaning effort.

