

Living Together: Questions for the Caregiver

These questions can help you and your family sort out the practical and emotional consequences of caring for an older adult in your home or moving in with them. When answering the questions below, remember that there may be gaps between what you'd like to do, and what you realistically can do.

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
<i>Consider your relationship with your parent or older adult:</i>		
Has the relationship been one of openness and honesty?	[]	[]
Do you have a way of sorting out differences?	[]	[]
Have there been past conflicts?	[]	[]
If so, have they been resolved?	[]	[]
How do you feel about sharing your household? _____		

<i>Consider the set-up of your / their current home:</i>		
Is there enough room in your home for everyone to have privacy?	[]	[]
Can your home be adapted for someone with impaired mobility?	[]	[]
Can your home accommodate a wheelchair or hospital bed if needed?	[]	[]
Are there specific needs that may require remodeling?	[]	[]

<i>Consider how much help the older adult will need:</i>		
Is it assistance that you can realistically provide?	[]	[]
Are there other friends or family members who can assist you?	[]	[]
Have you talked about long term care arrangements?	[]	[]

<i>Consider your relationships and the needs of your family</i>		
Are you or your spouse or partner working, either full or part-time?	[]	[]
Can your primary relationship withstand less private time?	[]	[]
Do any children live with you?	[]	[]
Will your children be able to assist you with care?	[]	[]
Is anyone unhappy or resentful about living with the older adult?	[]	[]
Are you prepared to deal with those issues?	[]	[]
Do you feel you and the older adult can adjust to sharing a household?	[]	[]
Can you set limits on what you will and won't do?	[]	[]
Will you be comfortable with the rules of the new household?	[]	[]

Do you have any thoughts or concerns about combining these households?

How will you decide whether you or they need to seek other living arrangements?

Will you or they be able to find other living arrangements if this situation does not work out?

Updated 7/1/10

Living Together: Questions for the Older Adult

These questions can help you think about the practical and emotional consequences of moving into the home of a family member, or having them move in with you. It is important to discuss your needs and concerns with your family, as openly and honestly as you can.

<i>Consider your relationship with your child or family member:</i>	Yes	No
Have there been past conflicts?	[]	[]
If so, have they been resolved?	[]	[]
Has the relationship been one of openness and honesty?	[]	[]
Do you have a way of sorting out differences?	[]	[]
What is the status of your relationship today? _____		
How do you feel about sharing a household? _____		

<i>Consider what your new living conditions will be:</i>		
Is there enough room in the home for everyone to have privacy?	[]	[]
Will a move displace someone else?	[]	[]
If yes, have you talked about this?	[]	[]
Do you have specific needs that may require changes?	[]	[]
If yes, what will it cost and who will pay for it? _____		

<i>Consider how much care you currently need:</i>		
Will your child or family member be able to meet your needs?	[]	[]
Have you talked about long-term care arrangements?	[]	[]
What will happen if more care is needed? _____		

<i>Consider the relationships of those in this home prior to the possible move:</i>		
Do the adult members of the household currently work?	[]	[]
Can spouses or partners in the household withstand less private time?	[]	[]
Do any of their children live with them?	[]	[]
If so, can any of these children assist you if needed?	[]	[]
Do you know how other family members feel about this move?	[]	[]
Is anyone going to be resentful or unhappy?	[]	[]
Are you prepared to deal with those issues?	[]	[]
Will you be comfortable with the rules of the new household?	[]	[]

Do you have any thoughts or concerns about combining these households?

How will you decide whether you or they need to seek other living arrangements?

Will you or they be able to find other living arrangements if this situation does not work out?

Updated 7/1/10