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# How To Review, Select and Interview Your Matches

## Guide For Home Seekers/ Renters



**Canada  
HomeShare™**  
by HelpAge Canada

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# Choosing a Match

Choosing the right match is essential to your success within the HomeShare program. Here we have created a guide to support you through the process. Remember that if you have any questions or need additional support or guidance, you can contact <https://happipad.com/home-share-support/>

## Step 1 Initial Review

When you receive a match notification on Happipad conduct an initial review to see if there is anything that does not meet your basic criteria or your preferences.

Things to look for in the initial review:

- Is the home located in the right area for you?
- Is the rent within your budget?
- Is the home available for the time period you need to rent?
- Do your pet preferences match?
- Have they completed their police record screening verification?

## Step 2 Schedule your Interview

If the match meets your initial expectations, proceed to schedule a time to meet and interview one another. Consider setting aside 30 minutes for the interview.

Interview options:

- In-person, this is strongly recommended as the best way to get to know someone, is face to face.
- Video call, the next best thing to in-person.
- Phone call

# Choosing a Match

## **Step 3 Preparing for the interview**

First, refresh your memory on what is important to you regarding the logistics of homesharing. Please reference your answers from the Sharing & Etiquette Guidance Workbook that you completed.

Make a few notes of the most important things you want to share with your potential match. For example, this may include:

- The type of space you are looking for.
  - Allergies, visitors and pet preferences.
  - Expectations around cleaning and quiet hours.
  - Parking and transit access
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# Sample Questions

**Next prepare some questions to help you learn about your match. Here are some ideas:**

- Please tell me about yourself, your personality and lifestyle, any prior shared living renter experience/lessons learned, and what you're looking forward to in sharing a home.
- What made you decide to apply to HomeShare?
- What does a typical weekday look like for you?
- What does a typical weekend look like for you?
- How do you suggest we work together to share the kitchen, bathroom, laundry and common areas?
- Do you like to cook?
- What time do you like to make your meals usually?
- Clean and tidy mean different things to different people. Please describe for me your standard of household cleanliness and tidying, providing specific examples (kitchen, bathroom, laundry, common areas).
- Every shared household encounters problems from time to time. What can we do at the start to reduce or prevent problems later? How do you suggest we handle our conflicts when they do arise?
- How would you prefer to be advised if there is a problem e.g. discuss in person, text, or leave a note?
- Are there any behaviours that you would find difficult to live with?
- What are the outcomes you're expecting from your home share?
- What is supplied in the home for the Homeseeker's use and what will the homeseeker will need to bring or arrange for themselves?
- Discuss distance to amenities.
- What are the house rules regarding visitors and guests? What are the expectations of the home provider to notify the home seeker of guests they will be having over?
- Are there any special considerations to be aware of? Examples:
  - Allergies or other relevant health concerns
  - Cultural and/or faith practices
  - Parent would like to visit over the holidays
  - Need storage for winter tires and paddleboard