California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo Art & Design Department Art 388: Web Design



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# **Contents** 3

## Introduction

Abstract 3 Schedule 3 Audience 5 Technical Limitations 5

#### Research 6

Preliminary research design 6 Findings from the Research 6 Personas 7 Goals 8

#### **User Interaction Design** 9

*Functionality groups* 9 Sketches 10 Wireframes 12

#### **Usability Analysis** 16

Usability Analysis Limitations 16

#### User Interface Design 17

**Final product** 19

#### Future Enhancements 30

# Introduction Abstract

# Roomy is an app that can help people find roommates easier. With this new app, discovering people of similar age, hobbies and life styles in users' area that are looking for roommates or are looking for a room to rent! This app is the match.com of finding roommates, users will have to fill out some information about himself/ herself and will be matched with local people looking to share a home with a similar user. Start by telling us a little about yourself and who you're looking for. We will use the information to help you find a great roommate to match your lifestyle and to help the right people find you. Once users have found a potential roommate, they will be able to message one another in our IM messenger. This app will be able to notify users when a match has been made and if there is a message waiting for him/ her. This app is different because it is a quick and easy way to find a roommate that you can live with, we all have had those roommates where we didn't really know them before we moved in and eventually finding out their habits and interests for better or for worse, we are trying to make living with roommates fun and easy and not dreadful or stressful.

#### Schedule

- 09-22-2014 Think of preliminary app ideas, start to think of our groups. Design research methods Figure out research strategies Choosing project ideas
- 09-29-2014 Due Monday: Report 1 (Abstract and Preliminary research design) Participatory research, design and research first survey Introduce personas and goals Review and analyze survey responses Discuss and email interview questions Scheduling
- 10-06-2014 Due Monday: Report 2 (schedule, audience, preliminary research, And findings from the research) Review and analyze interview responses

Discuss personas, goals and interface

- 10-13-2014 Due Monday: Report 3 (personas and goals)Functional and data elementsWork on information flowchart
- 10-20-2014 Due Monday: Report 4 (functionality groups)Discuss designing good behavior, interaction frameworkWork on sketches and wireframes
- 10-27-2014 Due Monday: Report 5 (sketches for key path, sketches for necessary use cases).
  Usability and usability analysis
  Usability analysis: pilot tests in class
- 11-03-2014 Usability tests (NO REPORT DUE) Finishing all low-res wireframes
- 11-10-2014 Due Monday: Report 6 Metaphor, idioms, and affordances Work on high-res static mock-ups
- 11-17-2014 Due Monday: Report 7 (changes from the usability analysis) Work on high-res static mock-ups
- 11-24-2014 Due Monday: Report 8 (tentative) Build the final product
- 12-01-2014 Due Monday: Report 9 (tentative) Build the final product
- 12-10-2014 Due Monday: FINAL REPORT Final presentation

#### Audience

Our initial target audience was college students, but, after our beta version, the product's audience will be anyone 18 and older who is looking for a roommate(s) who meets their living standards.

#### **Technical Limitations**

For the user to be able to use our app, they will need a smart phone with internet access. Technical limitations on the production side of the app include a secure data base and a compatibility program to make the matches safe and easy for our users.

# **Research** Preliminary research design

To start our process, we created surveys for our classmates, peers, and fellow students to help us answer what type of information they would like to know about a potential roommate before they would choose to live with him or her. These online and offline surveys helped us figure out the key demographic we were looking to offer our product to, which is basically the ages of 18 and older. It also helped us narrow down the most important questions to ask our users when creating their initial roommate profiles. At the end of the surveys, we asked if we can contact the volunteers again, and we have emailed those who say yes a few more open-ended questions to help our research. Once we had our first version of the product we used our participatory research to show us users' initial responses and helped guide us into making a fully developed product. Finally, we corrected our errors based on the information we gather based on the viewers' reactions and finalized the product.

### **Findings from the Research**

We conducted an online survey, which we posted on Facebook, for our initial research. We had 73 responses. We found from the survey that 51% of the people who took it reported that they have had issues in the past with finding roommates, whereas 49% reported not having past issues. When asked, "What kind of relationship are you looking for with your potential roommate?" 51% were looking to be friends, 42% were looking to respectfully and peacefully coexist, 5% wanted to do everything together, and 1% selected other.

People taking the survey filled out a checklist of things they would like to know about future roommates: 95% checked cleanliness (in common space) 93% checked age and gender 92% checked smoking habits 84% checked social habits 81% checked rent price limits 78% checked pets 70% checked sleep habits/morning or night person 78% checked shared or private room 77% checked drinking habits 73% checked noise level
74% checked criminal history
68% checked location she/he would like to live in
66% checked number of roommates
60% checked cooking/eating habits
60% checked significant others
51% checked hobbies
41% occupation
33% checked conflict resolution skills.

We also asked, "Is there any other information you would like to know about a potential roommate?" We received nine responses. Two were irrelevant, but the others are as followed: How food is to be decided in the fridge (if everyone shares food or if everyone has their own)? When he/she is looking to get a room by, maybe references? College level? Major? Do they play an instrument? Do they shower in the morning or evening ? Are they a homebody or always out and about? Do they make enough money to cover the bills? What do the bills usually run? Why is the roommate looking for a place like this? Their willingness for casual sexual activity and swinger games, music taste. We received eight email addresses that we can contact later for more questions.

#### Personas



Stacy: A 19 year old student at A & M Texas University from Sunnyville, California who just finished her first year studying business. She lived her first year in the dorms with one roommate, Jen, who Stacy had a bad relationship with. Jen was messy, always out, never around to bond with her and not considerate of Stacy. Stacy is now trying to find a nice house in a neighborhood within 20 miles of campus with two roommates she can be friends with and enjoy living with. She is looking for tidy and clean roommates as well as people who wants to hang out at home and adventure with her.



Jack: A 24 year old student at Cuesta Community College originally from Stockton, California. He lives in a house off foothill in San Luis Obispo and needs a roommate because one of his roommates is leaving after they have all signed the lease. Jack works and goes to community college. He wants a roommate that can pay rent on time and that isn't allergic to animals because he has a dog and a cat. He would also prefer a nonsmoker because he just quit. He has four other roommates already in the house that all work and go to community college who stay busy but also have a very active social life and drink together as a group.



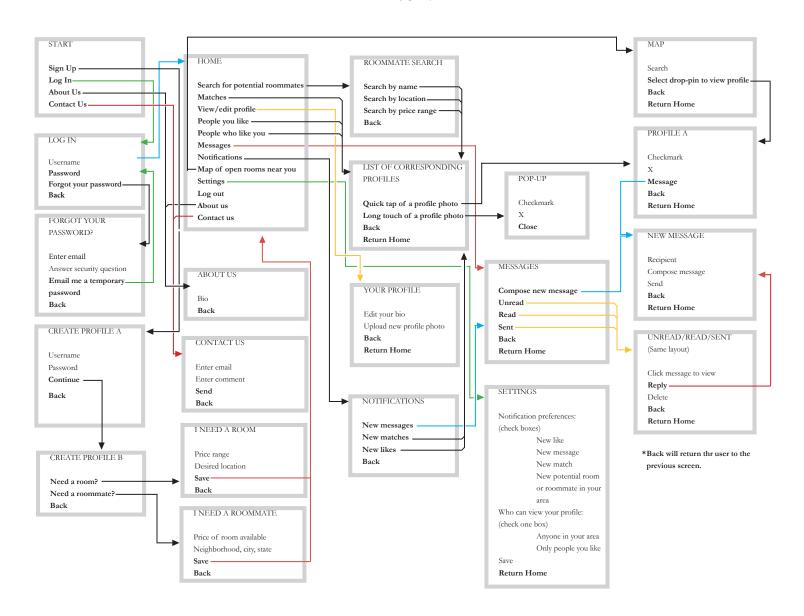
Jeffrey: A 33 year old man working at the post office in Mission Beach, San Diego originally from Maine. Jeff moved to get a little California sunshine. Jeff is currently living in an apartment complex that has just switched ownership and since raised the rent price and he can't afford it anymore. He wants to find an apartment close to his job in town that is affordable because he bikes to work and lives on a budget. He is looking for an older mature and self-sufficient roommate. He wants his roommate to be quiet, does their own "thing" and is early to bed since Jeff has to wake up early every morning for work and is a light sleeper. Jeffrey is also allergic to nuts so he would prefer a roommate who doesn't cook with nuts.

#### Goals

The goal is to easily find a good roommate. This goal is performed by optimizing the search process by properly matching potential roommates based on the criteria that the potential roommates input. This criteria is based off information that each user entered. For example, the user's cleanliness, age and gender, smoking habits, desired roommate relationship, etc.

#### **User Interaction Design**

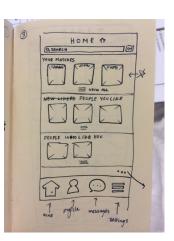
Functionality groups



#### **Sketches**

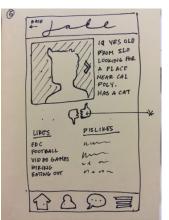




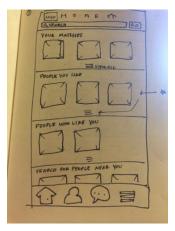














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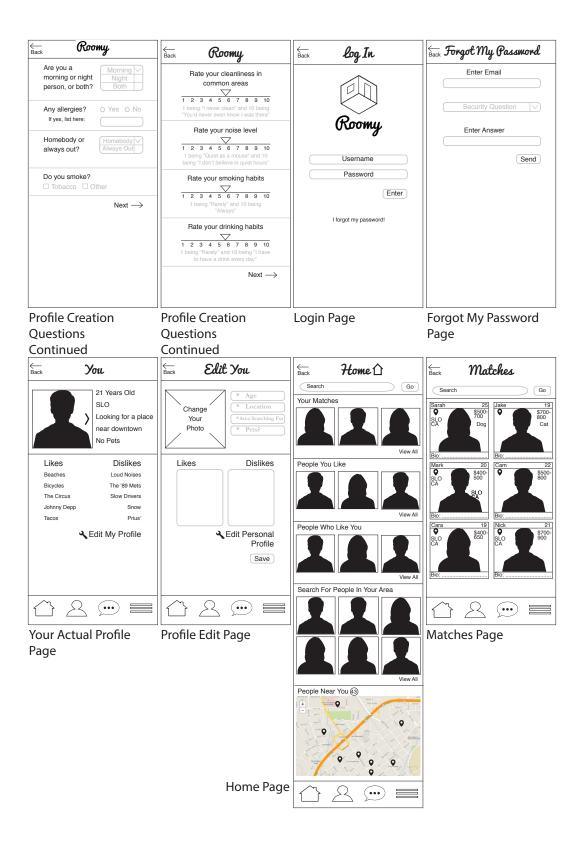
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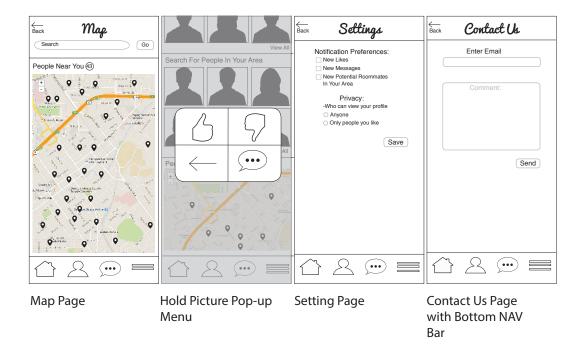
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Profile Page with Like Icon Selected

Profile Page with Dislike Icon Selected

Messages Page

**Conversations** Page



# **Usability Analysis**

We held usability tests and had nine people test the first draft of our app layout. We had the testers complete tasks like create a profile to help match you to a potential roommate and and to message and like/dislike another's profile. The first and third testers didn't have any questions or comments about the app, but they thoroughly read through each of the questions in the profile creation and they did not need to spend a lot of time on each frame. The second tester struggled to find her way through the app's layout because not all of the wireframes were completed and linked yet, so a few parts we not clickable yet. The fourth, fifth, and sixth testers all figured out the layout and functionality of the app very quickly and said that it was "easy to use". The seventh tester had a slow start, but after having his questions answered he stated that our app is "useful" and a "great idea". The eighth tester read almost every line on each of the frames and commented that he liked it. The ninth tester skipped the first task and logged into the home page instead of creating a profile and then she easily navigated the remainder of the layout.

### **Usability Analysis Limitations**

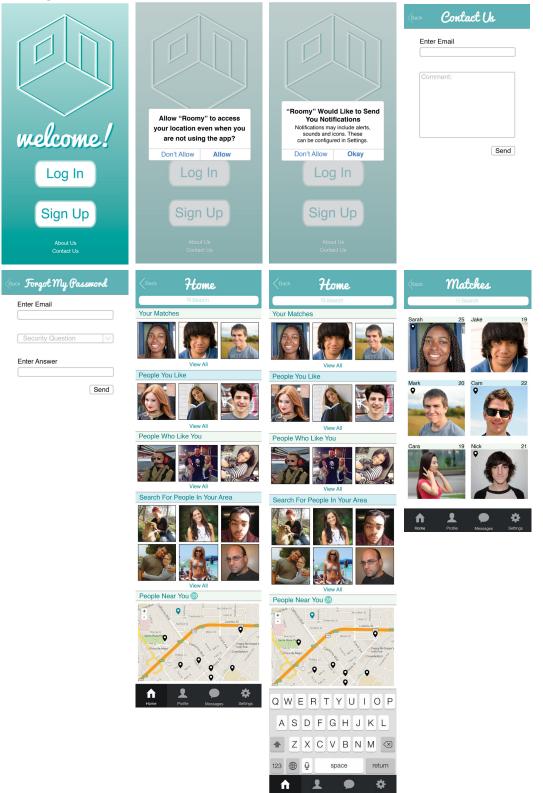
When creating Roomy's prototype, we used Flinto. Because of the technical limitations we have with the website, we aren't able to accurate portray one feature of Roomy. When selecting a potential roommate's profile from the Home page or one of the lists of profiles, the prototype continues straight to that selected profile. In the fully functioning version of Roomy, the user has two options when viewing a selected profile. The user can quickly tap the profile photo of a potential roommate, which takes them to the select profile (like the prototype). Or the user can hold their touch on the selected profile for a moment and a box will appear displaying the actions and their corresponding icons Like, Dislike, Message, and Return. This second option allows a quicker experience when a user is sorting through roommate options.

### **User Interface Design**



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### **Final product**



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21

## Roomy What is the rent for the room? Is room shared or private? How many people will be in # shared room? Apartment or House?

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Is room shared or private?	Any allergies? O Yes O No	Any allergies? O Yes O No	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 1 being "I never clean" and 10 being "You'd never even know I was there"	
How many	If yes, list here:	If yes, list here:	Rate your noise level	
people will be in # shared room?	Homebody or always out?	Homebody or Homebody	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 1 being "Quiet as a mouse" and 10 being "I don't believe in quiet hours"	
Apartment or House?	Do you smoke?	Do you smoke?	Rate your smoking habits	
How many roommates live #	Tobacco Other	Tobacco     Other	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 1 being "Rarely" and 10 being	
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Pets: None		Pets: Large [	Dog			Pets: Larg	ge Dog
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Price: \$600-800	Price: \$600-800	Price: \$600-800	Price: \$400-600	
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Gender: Female	Gender: Female	Gender: Female	Gender: Male	
Room Type: Shared (max 2)	Room Type: Shared (max 2)	Room Type: Shared (max 2)	Room Type: Shared (max 3)	
Pets: None	Pets: None	Pets: None	Pets: Cat	
Location: Laguna Lake, SLO	Location: Laguna Lake, SLO	Location: Laguna Lake, SLO	Location: Downtown SLO	
Bio	Bio	Bio	Bio	
I am a waitress at Buffalo Wild Wings and looking for a place near Laguna Lake, originally from Atacadero and need to save money on gas. I studied at Cuesta and UCSB for Psychology. I am allergic to horse hair and pent butter. I love to hang out with my roommates.	I am a waitress at Buffalo Wild Wings and looking for a place near Laguna Lake, originally from Alscadero and need to save money on gas. I studied at Cuesta and UCSB for Psychology. I am allergic to horse hair and pent butter. I love to hang out with my roommates.	I am a waitress at Buffalo Wild Wings and looking for a place near Laguna Lake, originally from Atascadero and need to save money on gas. I studied at Cuesta and UCSB for Psychology. I am allergic to horse hair and pent butter. I love to hang out with my roommates.	I am from Texas, have a cat named Stewy who is quiet and chill. I like to go paint balling and go to the shooting range, I am a senior at Cal Poly studying Nutrition so look forward to a healthy chef in the house! I like to cook. A lot and I always could use more taste testers so my future roommates can	
Likes Dislikes	Likes Dislikes	Likes Dislikes	help me out with that.	
Salads Lifted Trucks	Salads Lifted Trucks	Salads Lifted Trucks Sororities	Likes Dislikes	
Eating Out Surfines Good Tippers Gross Floors and Counters Adventuring Talkative people Going to the Pismo Dunes	Eating Out Soronines Good Tippers Gross Filoors and Counters Adventuring Talkative people Going to the Pismo Dunes	Eating Out Solonities Good Tippers Gross Floors and Counters Adventuring Talkative people Going to the Pismo Dunes	LINES DISTINCES Alternative Music A chick named Healthy Food Gail Funny People Finding toenail clippings in the Chill roommates carpet	
Country Music	Country Music	Country Music	that would be	
Alternative Music	Alternative Music	Alternative Music	down to adventure No communication	
Home Profile Messages Stilling	Home Profile Messages Settings	Home Profile Messages Settings	or eat my food roommates or friends	
		new rome romanges coming	Home Profile Messages Settings	

#### Back **Winston**



Like Dislike C Message About
Price: \$400-600
Age: 22

Gender: Male	
Room Type: Shared (max	3)
Pets: Cat	
Location: Downtown SLO	
Bio	

I am from Texas, have a cat named Stewy who is quiet and chill. I like to go paint balling and go to the shooting range, I am a senior at Cal Poly studying Nutrition so look forward to a healthy che'n the houseI like to cook. A lot and I always could use more taste testers so my future roommates can help me out with that.

Likes Dislikes Alternative Music A chick named Gail Healthy Food Finding toenail Funny People clippings in the Chill roommates carpet that would be No communication down to adventure between or eat my food roommates or friends

♠

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Winston

About Price: \$400-600 Age: 22

Gender: Male
Room Type: Shared (max 3)
Pets: Cat
Location: Downtown SLO
Bio
I am from Texas, have a cat named
go paint balling and go to the shooting
range, I am a senior at Cal Poly
studying Nutrilon so look forward to a
healthy chef in the houseI like to cook.
A lot and al always could use more taste
testers so my future roommates can
help me out with that.
Likes Dislikes
Alternative Music A chick named
Healthy Food Gait

Finding toenall clippings in the Chill roommates that would be down to adventure or eat my food Triends



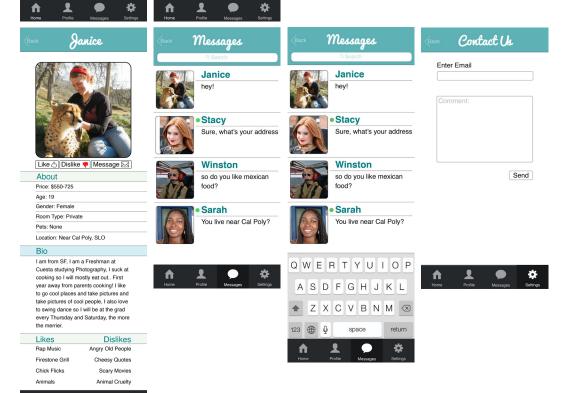
Janice

Price: \$550-725 Age: 19 Gender: Female Room Type: Private Pets: None Location: Near Cal Po Bio I am from SF, I am a F Cuesta studying Phote cooking so I will most year away from paren to go cool places and take pictures of cool p to swing dance so I w every Thursday and S the merrier Likes Rap Music Firestone Grill Chick Flicks Animals ♠ 1

Janice

sage 🖂 Like 🛦 Dislike 🖓 Message 🖂

	About			
	Price: \$550-725			
	Age: 19			
	Gender: Female			
	Room Type: Private			
	Pets: None			
oly, SLO	Location: Near Ca	Location: Near Cal Poly, SLO		
	Bio			
Freshman at	I am from SF, I am	a Freshman at		
ography, I suck at	Cuesta studying Photography, I suck at			
ly eat out First	cooking so I will mostly eat out First			
its cooking! I like	year away from parents cooking! I like			
take pictures and	to go cool places and take pictures and			
people, I also love	take pictures of cool people, I also love			
ill be at the grad	to swing dance so I will be at the grad			
Saturday, the more	every Thursday an	d Saturday, the more		
	the merrier.			
Dislikes	Likes	Dislikes		
Angry Old People	Rap Music	Angry Old People		
Cheesy Quotes	Firestone Grill	Cheesy Quotes		
Scary Movies	Chick Flicks	Scary Movies		
Animal Cruelty	Animals	Animal Cruelty		
Messages Settings	Home Profile	Messages Settings		



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(Back <b>Stacy</b>	(Back Stacy	Back Janice	Back Janice
	Hey. How's it going?		
	It's good. How are you doing?		
	room, want to check out mine? Sure, what's your address?		hey!
Hey. How's it going?	Send		Send
Doing good as well, saw you need a	QWERTYUIOP		QWERTYUIOP
room, want to check out mine?	ASDFGHJKL		ASDFGHJKL
Sure, what's your address?	◆ Z X C V B N M ⊗	hey!	◆ Z X C V B N M ⊗
Send	123      space return	Send	123
Home Profile Messages Settings	Home Profile Messages Settings	Home Profile Messages Settings	Home Profile Messages Settings

Back	Winston	Back <b>Winston</b>	Kack Sarah	(Back Sarah
	Hey. Read your profile. You seem like a cool person. Are you interested	Hey. Read your profile. You seem like a cool person. Are you interested in meeting up to talk to each other? Sounds like a good idea. You seem cool. Where and when should we meet?		You live near Cal Poly?
3	in meeting up to talk to each other?	What's you number?		Send
	Sounds like a good idea. You seem cool. Where and when	Send		QWERTYUIOP
	should we meet?	Q W E R T Y U I O P		ASDFGHJKL
	What's you number?	ASDFGHJKL	You live near Cal Poly?	★ Z X C V B N M ⊗
10	Send	◆ Z X C V B N M ⊗	Send	123
ft Home	Profile Messages Settings	123	Home Profile Messages Settings	Home Profile Messages Settings

Home.	(Back <b>Matches</b> 9. Search	Back <b>People You Like</b> 9. Search
	Starb 25 Jake 19 Mar A 27 2 C 2 2 C 2 2	Stay 24 Samarth 18 Res A Room Room Room Room Room Room Room Ro
View All	Cara 19 Nick 21	Angela 21 John 20











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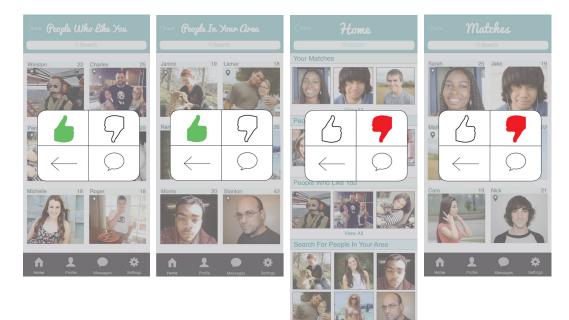
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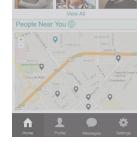


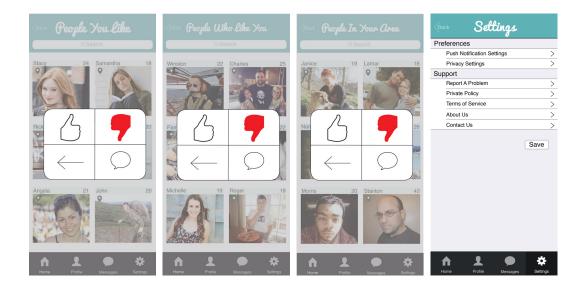




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#### Settings About Us Notifications Privacy Likes Sarah Likes You Who Can View Your Profile Who We Are Who We Are Lunched on an GS application on November 17h 2014. Room helped pioned the commate finding industry. Three Call Poys idudents: Cade Hardmann, Shauan Jesties, and Rahrell Lorand, came up with the concept for a class assignment for a web design project under the professor Brunon Relexe. We create acgonizations so people in need of a roommate or a room an more lakely for domore they can low helpsdy with in their crustrations. Over Roomy's development, we've learned more and more about yoth topologis waits- and the tools flaw, read to help take the tothery out of roommate or room finding. With more ways flam ever to bring roommates together, we've come a long way since its beginning class. Report Problem Only me Off Only people I like Spam or Abuse omething Isn't Working General Feedback From people I like ✓ Everyone ✓ From everyone Who Can Message You Cancel Messages Sarah Messaged You No one Only people I like Off Only matches From my matches ✓ Everyone ✓ From everyone Visible On Map New People Near You What We Do Our mission is simple: to help roommates find the kind of person they're looking for to fill a room or to help someone in need of a room to live in, find people or someone compatible with them. And we think we're pretty good at it. No Off ✓ Yes ✓ From everyone How It Works How II Works Launchei on an 60 sapclastion on November 17th 2014. Roomy helped pioneet the commate finding industry Three Cal Poly students. Kael Haupmann, Shuara Jellison, and Rachel Leonard, care usy with the concept for a class assignment for a web design project under the professor Brano Riterio. We oracle oppontinies to popel en reled of a commate of a noom are more skely to find someone they can live happily with in their circumstance. Over domony development, we le kerned nor-and more about what people ward—and the tools they need to help take the totley out orionmate or noom finding. With more ways that ever to bring commates together, we've come a long way since R1 beaming class. ♠ 1 • ♠ Ł \* ♠ Ł Đ. since it's beginning ideas £ ۲ \* ♠ Terms Of Service Contact Uk Privacy Policy Roomy, Privacy Policy Roomy Terms of Service Enter Email n November 17, 2014 Last Up ed: November 17, 2014 Welcome to Roomy, the service for Roommate finding and matching Roomy, as regards users originating from within the United States as regards users originating from outside the United States, ("Roomy") respects the privacy of its users and has developed this based off of people in your area and compatibility. ("Roomy"). Privacy Policy to demonstrate its commitment to protecting your By accessing the Roomy mobile application, (the "Website") you privacy. This Privacy Policy describes the information we collect, agree to be bound by these Terms of Use (this "Agreement"), whether or not you register as a member of Roomy, If you wish how that information may be used, with whom it may be shared, and your choices about such uses and disclosures. We encourage to become a member and make use of the Roomy service (the you to read this Privacy Policy carefully when using our website or "Service"), please read these Terms of Use. The term "Website" is services or transacting business with us. By using our website, you deemed to refer to using of the Service by means of a computer, a are accepting the practices described in this Privacy Policy. Roomy mobile device or a mobile application If you have any questions about our privacy practices, please refer You should also read the Roomy Privacy Policy, which is Send to the end of this Privacy Policy for information on how to contact incorporated by reference into this Agreement and available on the Website. If you do not accept and agree to be bound by all of the Í01 Send terms of this Agreement, including the Boomy Privacy Policy, do not Information we collect about you

use the Website or the Service. Please contact us with any questions regarding this Agr

1. Acceptance of Terms of Use Agreement.

This Agreement is an electronic contract that establishe а. the legally binding terms you must accept to use the



In General. We may collect information that can identify you such as your name and email address («personal information») and

other information that does not identify you. We may collect this

information through a website or a mobile application. When you

provide personal information through our website, the in

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Case Forgot My Password Enter Email	Back Conlact UL	
Security Question	Comment:	
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123	123	
	↑         ↓         ●         ⇒           Home         Profile         Messages         Settings	

# **Future Enhancements**

Currently our application is only designed to allow someone to search for a room or search for a roommate, but we would like to expand this to encompass more. We want people to be able to post houses for rent, and we want realtors to be able to posts houses for rent as well.