



Pittsburg State University

Residence Hall Living Space and Air Quality

Maintaining indoor air quality and healthy living conditions in residence halls is a cooperative effort between students and staff. Unlike most homes, residence halls are heated and cooled using a circulated hot and cold water system. While this system is great for residence halls because each room is independently vented (one room's condition does not impact others), it does not remove humidity or circulate air throughout the facility. Also, the heat/cool system is centralized and can function in only one mode at a time. (heat or AC).



With this in mind, here are a few important housekeeping and room maintenance practices students must follow to reduce humid conditions, promote airflow and circulation, and prevent mildew or mold from forming:

- **BE A MINIMALIST!** Limit clothing and personal items. All residence halls are recently renovated and include a bed, desk, chair, mattress, chest, and wardrobe for each student. Additional furniture is prohibited.
- **DON'T BLOCK VENTS.** Avoid placing items in front of the heating/cooling unit.
- **BRING A FAN (AND USE IT).** Constantly circulating air will promote airflow and keep surfaces dry.
- **WATCH FOR CONDENSATION.** Particularly around/on windows, condensation can accumulate. Keep these areas dry, and don't add additional window coverings.
- **TIDY UP.** Don't leave damp clothes, towels, shoes, or other items laying around.
- **CLEAN UP.** Clean your room weekly to get rid of dust, dirt, and trash. Wipe down surfaces with antibacterial wipes or sprays. Clean up water immediately.
- **WELCOME SOME HELP!** Periodic health and safety checks will be done during the academic year, and these visits can be hugely helpful as you adjust to residence hall life.

Any concerns should be reported immediately to your resident assistant for evaluation and response by maintenance staff.