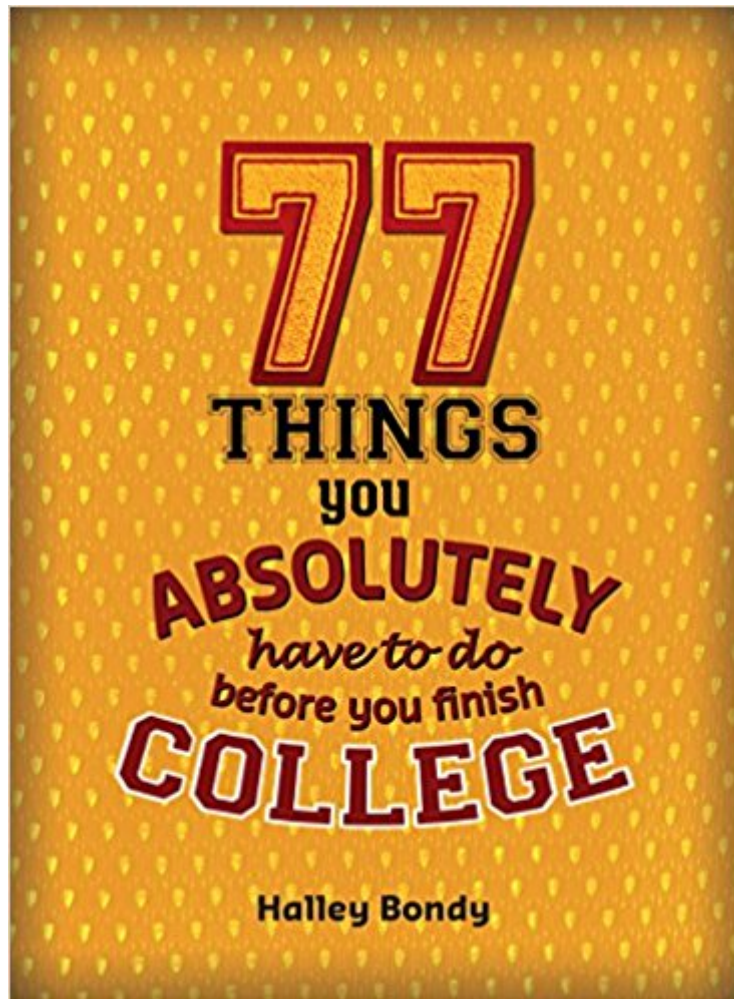


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# 77 Things You Absolutely Have To Do Before You Finish College



## Synopsis

College is about way more than just frats and finals: It's also a time when students can learn new skills, encounter different cultures, test out potential careers, and take a stab at something new just because it sounds cool. And in order to leave college a better, smarter, and more interesting person than you were when you started out, all you need is an open mind, a willing spirit, and (of course) this book! The 77 entries included here cover everything from negotiating the terms of an apartment rental to attending a school-sponsored lecture event to hosting a movie marathon – and supplemental sidebars provide bonus tips for doing everything cheaply and well. (Oh, but remember: The most important thing to do? Graduate!)

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As a college student, I find this book highly relatable to me. Given the title, I expected a fun, goofy book that lists a bunch of random things that one should do in college and was looking to find a couple of outrageous things to do before I graduate. To a certain extent, it does deliver that, but it's also so much more. 77 Things (the college ed.) is divided into seven sections with eleven suggestions each. The sections are as follow: (1) Around the pad [aka. your room / home], (2) Getting Out and About on Your Own, (3) Taking Advantage of School, (4) Being Social, (5) Body and Health, (6) Spoil Yourself, (7) For the Future. As you can see from this list, it isn't just about going out and doing something outrageous and memorable before you enter the "real world." While it does encourage us to put ourselves out there and try new things, it also reminds us to take care of our health and to also look for opportunities to further our future. For example, it suggests taking a

physical. This in particular stood out to me because I can't remember the last time I went to the doctor for a regular checkup. Things like this are more easily remembered for children when we need to get shots all the time, but as we get older we forget to do things like this. Nowadays, I usually just go to the doctor when I have an immediate problem. This book reminded me that sometimes we need to take steps to ensure problems do not happen in the first place—or at least to catch them in the early stages. Other suggestions include ways of getting to know people and also exploiting your college's resources. Among other things that you may not have thought about. I recommend this book as a great resource for students with ideas on what to do while they're in college, and I strongly recommend trying them out. This is a book that I could have used my freshman year when I didn't yet know how to take full advantage of what college life had to offer me.

For many young adults, being in college is the first time they get to try out being on their own. And while partying may be the first thing that pops into your mind when you think about older teens branching out, author Halley Bondy thinks there is much more to consider: 77 things to be precise. Her guide, *77 Things You Absolutely Have to Do Before You Finish College* is a thoughtful look at the whole experience of going to college and the benefits you can get outside of the education you receive there. Recommendations are divided into seven categories that address dorm rooms/apartments, getting around on your own, getting the most out of school, being social, taking care of your health, spoiling yourself, and preparing for getting out of college. Each idea is presented on a two-page spread, so it's easy to pick up the book and focus on one or two ideas at a time. Many tips are practical, like "Learn to prepare one meal perfectly." Others are meant to help students branch out to things they may not normally do, like "Join an a capella group" or "Contribute to the school paper." Some, like "Get a massage," are just fun. Bondy's tone is light and conversational and her suggestions are peppered with pull-out quotes and relevant sidebars, like a lesson on how to set a table and a list of signs to help you tell a bad friend from an abusive friend. All in all, *77 Things* makes for a great guide to pack along in your suitcase whether you are a freshman starting out or a student returning for another year. It makes a great gift too. The publisher gave me a copy of this book in exchange for my honest review.

Although some of the suggestions here are pretty good most of them are rather too sophomoric or just downright inane. I thought about giving this book to someone I know who is heading for college but then I paged through it and said, "No way!". Activities like indulging in an all-day TV marathon or

pranking a friend seem more appropriate and better suited to middle school or the 11th grade than college. I don't think it makes sense to encourage a person trying to get through college to join a cappella choir or waste time creating a web series about his/her campus. Book provided by publisher.

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