As undergraduate mathematics instructors continue to implement active learning strategies and practices, researchers investigate the factors that contribute to classroom environments that are conducive to this approach. In this study, four “novice” instructors share their reflections, challenges, dilemmas, and personal growth from teaching introductory mathematics courses via an active learning approach. Instructors navigated institutional demands and innovative, “flexible” learning spaces to make reasonable pedagogical decisions. This study uses a multi-pronged analysis to explore the alignment of introductory mathematics content and norms, an active learning approach to teaching, and the physical learning space. By examining the practicality of their decisions with respect to teaching norms and obligations, this study emphasizes the many resources and supports that instructors utilize to improve their teaching. (Received September 18, 2019)