

Roommate Agreement

Introduction

Generally, most people feel they have to like each other or be friends in order to be roommates. It helps because people who like each other share common interests, communicate freely, and are tolerant of each other; however, people who live together do not have to be friends, or even like each other. Talking freely, sharing ideas and opinions, negotiating ways to handle situations can be done when friendships do not exist by mutual respect and understanding.

College is a time of personal growth and discovery about yourself and other people. In the months ahead you'll be exposed not only to new personalities, attitudes, and lifestyles but also a host of unfamiliar frustrations. Ironically, we overlook our own bad habits, which can be equally agitating in the eyes of our roommates and the community.

This Roommate Agreement was developed to assist in addressing roommate and community living issues that frequently come into conflict. It is our belief that certain problems can be averted if addressed early on. Through the process of completing the Roommate Agreement, you will have the opportunity to develop negotiation and conflict resolution skills that will help you now and in the future.

How to Use This Roommate Agreement

Set Aside Time: Negotiating how to live together is important. It deserves your undivided attention and time. The skills you are using might be new to you and take a little time but do not get frustrated. The more thorough you are today the fewer problems that will arise in the future.

Work Together: Negotiating involves all roommates. It is important that each of you take turns leading the discussion and working together to establish guidelines that all roommates can live by. Compromising on each item will help insure a successful negotiation and roommate relationship.

Write It Down: The completed document is an agreement that all roommates should have participated in and agreed on. Writing things down is important and actually helps to ensure that agreements will be carried out. The completed Room Agreement will be collected by your Resident Assistant and stored in the Residence Hall Directors Office. It can be used as a reference if a later issue arises within your room.

You Will Receive A Copy: A copy of the written agreement will be given to you to post in your room. It will help determine when and if an agreement has been broken. It may also help in outlying the process used to renegotiate agreements that aren't working out or in negotiation agreements on new issues.

Self Introductions: the following questions can be used as a starting point to get to know each other.

- **Where are you from?**
- **I'm planning to study or major in...**
- **What I like to watch on TV...**
- **The kind of music I like is...**
- **My favorite foods/restaurants are...**
- **For fun I like to...**
- **One thing you could do that is guaranteed to get on my nerves is...**
- **How important it is for me to have our room neat and clean...**
- **How I feel about drinking alcohol...**
- **How I feel about drugs...**

Now that you have learned more about each other continue on to the Roommate Agreement.

Roommate Agreement

Name _____ Name _____ Room _____

Name _____ Name _____ Year/Semester _____

Use the following agreement as a guide to discuss the issues that develop between roommates. Be as honest and as specific as possible. Feel free to add specific terms or use additional paper if necessary. If there are items that are not listed that you would like to discuss feel free to add them.

Use of Personal Property (Check One)

	Yes	No	Ask			Yes	No	Ask
Stereo					Microwave			
TV					Dishes			
Speakers					Food			
Movies					Toiletries			
Computer					Other:			
Gaming System					Other:			
Clothes:					Other:			

Cleaning We agree to share in the following responsibilities:

Area to be cleaned	Roommate(s) Names	Roommate(s) Names	(Circle One)
Sweeping/Vacuuming			Daily or Weekly
Emptying Trash			Daily or Weekly
Dirty Dishes			Daily or Weekly
Picking Up Items			Daily or Weekly
Dirty Clothes			Daily or Weekly
Bathroom (if applicable)			Daily or Weekly
Range/Stove/Hood Fan			Daily or Weekly
Counter Tops			Daily or Weekly
Window Sills			Daily or Weekly
Other:			Daily or Weekly

Air Conditioning/Heat

Highest Temperature		Additional Notes:
Lowest Temperature		
Average Temperature		

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Noise Level (Please place all initials in one box)

Talk about sleeping habits and routines like if you are an early riser or stay up late, if you snooze for two hours or not, if you sleep with TV or Radio and if you like to take naps.

Time of Day	No Noise	Normal or Quiet Talking	Music/TV	Additional Notes:
Morning (7am – 12pm)				
Afternoon (12pm – 5pm)				
Evening (5pm – 10pm)				
Late Night (Past 10pm)				
Test or Paper				
Other:				

Security:

I agree to lock the door whenever I leave the room and not give out/lend my key so others have access to our room.

Roommate #1 Signature _____ Roommate #2 Signature _____

Roommate #3 Signature _____ Roommate # 4 Signature _____

Phone Usage:

How early should calls be taken? _____

How late should calls be taken? _____

When someone is sleeping? _____

When someone is studying? _____

Visitation: (Please refer to your lease contract documents & community policies)

How early can guests come over? _____

How late can stat guests come over? _____

How often can guests come over? _____

Can guests use your belongings when you are not home? _____

Communication: Come up with a plan for how you will communicate when there is a concern. _____

Additional Notes: _____

We have openly discussed all issues and created guidelines for our room. We agree to follow these guidelines and renegotiate specific areas when necessary. We also take responsibility to approach one another about any guidelines that may need to be adjusted through out the academic year to ensure a healthy living environment for ourselves and the community.

Signature & Date: _____ **Signature & Date:** _____

Signature & Date: _____ **Signature & Date:** _____

RA Signature & Date: _____