

This document is intended to serve as a format for an agreement between roommates to ensure that each individual's rights are respected. Your level of enjoyment and satisfaction from residence living will depend to a large extent on the thoughtful consideration you demonstrate for one another. As roommates, all of you should mutually determine the decisions and the stipulations of behavioral contract and endorse it. Your RA or RLC is available if additional assistance is needed.

**The basic rights of a roommate include**

- The right to study free from undue interference (noise, stereo, guests, etc.) in one's room.
- The right to sleep without undue disturbance from guests, roommate(s), etc.
- The right to expect that roommate(s) will respect one another's personal belongings.
- The right to a clean environment in which to live.
- The right to free access to one's room and facilities without pressure from roommate(s).
- The right to personal privacy.
- The right to host guests at agreed upon times, and with the expectation that the guests are to respect the rights of the host's roommate(s) and other residents.
- The right to expect that any and all disagreements will be discussed in an atmosphere of openness and mutual respect; and that it is acceptable, when any roommate feels it necessary, to involve a residence life staff member in such discussions.

It's time to discuss compromising and mutual considerations. Set down your ground rules. Determine guest rules, cleaning schedules, possessions that can be shared, food and shopping considerations, and study hours. Use the attached page to write down these and other things you have discussed and agree to follow them. Refer to it on a regular basis and revise it if necessary.

MUST BE HANDED IN TO RA UPON COMPLETION. A copy will be made and placed on the file of each roommate, the original will be returned.

## **Roommate charter: agreements and expectations**

**Cleaning the Room/Bathroom:** (Determine frequency of expected cleaning, who takes out trash/recycling? Who buys what cleaning supplies and tools?)

**Shared Space:** (Which areas do you share? How do you communicate sharing the space, if timing is important?)

**Use of Personal Possessions:** (What items can be borrowed or shared? What items are off limits?)

**Study Time:** (What days and times are considered “quiet” for the room/apartment? When do you each prefer to study? When should the TV be off/on? When are visitors allowed?)

**Shared Expenses:** (Will you buy groceries together or separately? What about toilet paper?)

**Visitors/Overnight Guests:** (When are guests permitted? Are there a maximum number of guests in the room? Will overnight guests be permitted in the room? What about sex?)

**Communication:** (If we have a disagreement how will we discuss the concern?)

**Security:** (Are friends allowed in the room/apartment when you are not there?)

## Roommate charter: agreements and expectations

**Sharing Time:** (Talk about your class schedules, how will you work it out if one of you needs to get up much earlier than the other? What are your sleeping habits? Do you have any “pet peeves” that would be important to share? How will I know if you are angry/upset? )

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We agree to abide by the above guidelines, which we have discussed and put in writing. We also agree to talk about problems and attempt to work together to find a solution. We understand that these guidelines can be discussed and revised if we both are in agreement. We agree to review these guidelines after the first month and update them as needed.

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Roommate Signature

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Roommate Signature

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Roommate Signature

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Residence Staff Signature

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Date Signed