

ROOMMATE AGREEMENT

Department of Residential Life
St. Cloud State University

Hall: _____
Room #: _____

Welcome! A major part of the college experience is adjusting to a community living environment. You may never have had a roommate before, let alone this many close neighbors. Therefore, this agreement offers you an effective way to communicate about issues pertinent to your academic and personal growth and well-being. We also hope that this process will eliminate or lessen the possibility of conflict and increase the quality of communication between you and your roommate(s). While completing this agreement try to be open and flexible, but also assertive about your own needs. Thanks for taking the time to complete this important agreement. Have a great year!

Part I

Background
The first group of questions are about your background. Everyone arrives with different experiences that shape the relationship he or she will develop with his or her roommate. Please answer the questions below to the level you are comfortable with.

1. Have you ever shared a room before? Yes No
2. Did you know your roommate(s) prior to receiving your room assignment? Yes No
-if so, what is the nature of your relationship? _____
3. What type of community did you grow up in and how did it affect who you are today? _____
4. Why did you choose St. Cloud State University? _____
5. What are you excited about regarding coming to college? _____
6. What is your intended major and why? _____
7. Do you intend to work or have involvement in major extra-curricular activities? _____
8. What kind of music and movies do you enjoy? _____
9. What are some of the topics which you have a passion about? _____
10. How do you like to spend your free time? _____

Pet Peeves
Sometimes there are things that one roommate will do that will really drive the other up the wall (snooze button, gossiping, etc)... here's your chance to list some potential problem areas and work them out.

It really bothers me when... _____

People can tell I am upset/frustrated when...

Security
I agree to lock the door of our room whenever I leave. I also understand that failure to do so could be found to constitute negligence.

We as roommates, enter into this agreement in good faith. We fully intend to abide by all the agreements we have made. We also agree to be flexible and to revise this agreement as necessary.

Roommate 1: _____ **Date:** _____
Roommate 2: _____ **Date:** _____
Roommate 3: _____ **Date:** _____
Roommate 4: _____ **Date:** _____
RA/ACA: _____ **Date:** _____

If Conflicts or Disagreements should arise. . .

You and your roommate have now had a chance to think and talk about some issues that may be of concern to you. If you should encounter any difficulties in your roommate relationship, we want you to first try working them out on your own. You may need to revise the agreement at a later time, or agree to new compromises. Willingness to do this on your part will make your living situation more positive and enjoyable. If difficulties persist after you've made a sincere effort to work things out on your own, contact your Resident Advisor for further assistance in solving the problem.



Part II

Studying

It is important to discuss some lifestyle choices that could potentially cause problems.

- We will set aside the following hours for quiet study time in our room each day:
 Sunday _____ Thursday _____
 Monday _____ Friday _____
 Tuesday _____ Saturday _____
 Wednesday _____
- Will low background music or TV be allowed at these times? **Yes** **No**
 This is the way we will resolve potential conflicts (i.e. one roommate may agree to study else-where after certain hours): _____

Lifestyle

It is important to discuss some lifestyle and schedule choices that could potentially cause problems.

- On week nights (Sunday through Thursday) I expect to be able to go to sleep by: _____
- On Friday and Saturday nights I expect to be able to go to sleep by: _____
- On weekday mornings I expect to get up by: _____
- On weekend mornings I expect to get up by: _____
- I like to take naps: Roommate 1: **Yes** **No** Roommate 2: **Yes** **No**
 Roommate 3: **Yes** **No** Roommate 4: **Yes** **No**

Visitation

One of the most common problems between roommates lies in the area of visitation. Who visits, for how long, and when are important questions to discuss and consider.

- Will guests be allowed in the room? **Yes** **No**
 -if yes, how many at once? **Male:** _____ **Female:** _____
- At what times will guests be welcome?
 anytime: **Yes** **No**
 overnight: **Yes** **No**
 -limited times, as follows: _____
- For what purposes will guests be allowed?
 -study: **Yes** **No**
 -social: **Yes** **No**
- Will social gatherings be allowed in the room? **Yes** **No**
 -if so, how often? (what days and times?) _____
- Should there be a certain time of night when all guests have to be out of the room? **Yes** **No**
 -if so, what time? _____
- Are you willing to leave the room when your roommate(s) wants to talk in private to another person, or should they find an alternative place to go? _____

Part III

Another area of potential difficulty is "responsibilities." It is important for roommates to share the responsibilities that are part of the residence hall experience. Things such as cleaning the room, keeping the room secure, telephone calls, and shared responsibilities for the room are all important matters that cannot be neglected.

Cleaning

- Check which one applies:
 We will each take care of cleaning our own space. _____
 We will alternate cleaning the entire room. _____
 We will share the responsibility of cleaning the entire room. _____
 Should we disagree on the amount of cleanliness each can tolerate we will resolve our problems in the following manner: _____

Telephone

- Phone calls will be limited to _____ minutes/hours.
 Where should messages be left and in what format? _____
 How late is it okay to receive phone calls? _____

Community / Personal property

An area of concern is what to do about property, including "community" property (property that can be used by both roommates), and "personal" property (those off-limits items). You may use these possessions of mine:

* Stereo	Yes No	Yes but ask	* Bed	Yes No	Yes but ask
* T.V./VCR/DVD	Yes No	Yes but ask	* Clothes	Yes No	Yes but ask
* Computer	Yes No	Yes but ask	* Food	Yes No	Yes but ask
* CD's / Tapes	Yes No	Yes but ask	* Appliances	Yes No	Yes but ask
* Money	Yes No	Yes but ask	* Playstation	Yes No	Yes but ask
* Other (Describe) _____				Yes No	Yes but ask
* Other (Describe) _____				Yes No	Yes but ask

- Do the above privileges apply to your roommate's guests? **Yes** **No**
 Expectations I have when others use my things: _____

What happens if one roommate ruins or damages the other's property? _____