

## Roommate Contract

The purpose of the Roommate Contract is to assist you and your roommates in designing the standards of behavior in your room. Through civil dialogue and consensus building you will create a living and learning environment that takes your needs and interests, as well as those of other community members, into account. This form will serve as your guide through this process, and should be used as a tool to spark conversation and record the results of your dialogue.

There are a variety of things to consider when developing your Roommate Contract. As your floors develop Community Standards, make sure that you also observe those goals and rules when developing your agreement. It is crucial to remember that your responsibilities to the community are just as important as those to your roommates. Your fellow residents, the College's policies, and the laws of surrounding community should also be taken into consideration throughout the entire process.

When starting this task with your roommate(s), please have an open and honest attitude. Even if you are friends with the people you are living with it is important to know how each of you feel about certain areas. You may think you know how your roommate(s) feel about certain things, but you don't always know for sure. It is far less likely that a conflict will arise if you can come to an agreement today these topics.

During this process one of the most important discussions will be about "Future Concerns." Nearly all of roommate conflicts that lead to a student moving out of the room stems from the roommate's inability to communicate problems with each other. How you plan on approaching each other is important, but how you react to your roommate's concerns is equally important. Your RA can be a great resource for you.

Your RA can assist you in filling out this form. They can facilitate a fair and organized discussion on each of the topics on the back side of the sheet. They will collect the form and it will be kept in with your Area Coordinator. It is important that you make notes of the decisions you make. Feel free to ask your RA for an extra blank copy of the form or a photocopy of the completed contract.

We strongly suggest that you set aside time periodically to discuss these topics and to see how things are going in the room. If you find that you and your roommate are having difficulties finding common ground or adhering to the Roommate Contract, consider revisiting the contract with your RA.

We hope that this is a productive conversation that will lead to a successful living experience. If you have any questions along the way, don't hesitate to ask your RA for some advice or direction.

**Hall/Room:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Residents:**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Suggested Topics to Discuss

<p><b>Guests/Visitors</b>          Sunday through Thursday          Friday and Saturday          How will you notify your roommate(s)?</p>	
<p><b>Use of personal possessions</b>          Borrowing/lending agreement          Consider: clothes, electronics, food, etc.          damages to borrowed property</p>	
<p><b>Noise/Sleep times</b>          Consider sleeping conditions: lights on/off, noise time, alarm settings, etc.          Electronic Use          Phone Conversations</p>	
<p><b>Cleaning</b>          Who will clean?          How Often?          Do people have specific responsibilities?</p>	
<p><b>Keys</b>          It is understood that keys will not be given out to anyone.</p>	
<p><b>Alcohol/Drug</b>          (Be honest with each other)          What are Wheaton's policies?          If you perceive a problem, how will you approach that with each other?</p>	
<p><b>Future Communication</b>          How will conflicts be addressed?          Consider addressing all such concerns in person. How will you involve the RA in these discussions?</p>	
<p><b>Additional Topics?</b></p>	

We have discussed and agreed upon the above. We recognize that any change in the agreements must be approved by everyone:

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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