

# Apartmentmate Bill of Rights & Living Agreement

## Bill of Rights

It is important to note that an apartment is a private space that should be shared equally by everyone living there; the term apartment will be used to include public space, as well as private or shared bedrooms. As a responsible apartmentmate, it is not appropriate to engage in any activity which would deny your apartmentmate(s) access to the apartment or make them feel uncomfortable while in the apartment. When one apartmentmate has a friend(s) visiting, it is always with the consent of the other apartmentmate(s). When this does not happen and apartmentmates cannot figure out how to resolve the problem, we suggest involving one of the Housing & Residence Life Staff – Resident Assistant (RA), Graduate Residence Director (GRD), or the Assistant Director (AD). Should apartmentmates not be able to come to a resolution, or should one apartmentmate continue to exhibit behavior that is inconsiderate or inappropriate, the Staff may take further action to resolve the conflict. This may include disciplinary action via the Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities, housing moves, or housing removal.

For some, living with others may be a new experience. You will find that sharing an apartment with others requires open and honest communication, cooperation, and compromise. Relationships of any kind involve a bit of work, some give and take, and an understanding of each other. The rights listed below are a suggested basis for agreements between apartmentmates. It is worth spending time discussing these rights and using them as a basis for communication. To a large extent, your relationship with your apartmentmate(s) is dependent on mutual consideration of your feelings and needs, as well as those of your apartmentmate(s). Please remember that with every right goes the responsibility to respect that same right when it is exercised by another.

- Residents have the right to read, study and sleep without undue interference from apartmentmates & guests.
- Residents have the right to expect that their personal property will be respected, and that their property is secure when it is in the apartment.
- Residents have the right to a clean environment, and the responsibility of doing their fair share to keep the apartment clean.
- Residents have the right to having free access to their apartment whenever they need/want to be in it.
- Residents have the right to a reasonable level of personal privacy.
- Residents have the right to expect that the rules and regulations of the Student Village, and the campus, will be followed, and that no one will be put at risk of harm through actions that violate policies.
- Residents have the right to be free from pressure, intimidation, physical or emotional harm, and/or behavior that is demeaning or disrespectful.
- Residents have the right to discuss issues constructively, openly, and timely – either in private or with the assistance of Staff.
- Residents should expect that in order to have a positive relationship, they are likely going to need to compromise.
- Residents have the right to be listened to when they are articulating one's feelings, and thoughts.
- Should a person wish to host a guest (defined as anyone who does not live in the apartment), it must be done with the permission of the apartmentmate(s) and also follow the guest policies outlined in the Student Village Handbook. In addition, the host of the guest is responsible for the behavior of their guest(s).

# Living Agreement

Apartmentmate(s) relationships are a critical part of the college experience. Developing a positive relationship is a process; it does not happen overnight. This worksheet will act as a starting point to achieving a positive apartmentmate relationship. As you fill this out, try to be as specific as possible in order to avoid complications or miscommunication later. After you have completed this agreement, you will sign it and Staff will make a copy for your apartment. The original will be kept on file in the Housing Office.

## THE APARTMENT:

This is a shared space between you all, meaning it is everyone's responsibility to take care of the apartment. This includes but is not limited to, the bedrooms, the bathrooms, the living room, and kitchen – upholding the cleanliness of the space. Sharing the responsibility of cleaning the apartment regularly and taking out the garbage.

## CLEANING THE APARTMENT:

- We will have a place for everything.
  We plan to keep it neat but not perfect.
- We will leave things where we drop them.
  We will be responsible for our own rooms.

We expect for your common area spaces (kitchen, living room, bathrooms) to be cleaned regularly. We will clean the common area spaces every \_\_\_\_\_ week(s) on \_\_\_\_\_ (day).

## DISHES:

- We will take turns washing the dishes.
  It is okay to wash our dishes \_\_\_ day after we cook.
- We will wash our own dishes after we use them.
  It is okay to leave dishes in the sink overnight.
- We will wash our dishes after we cook.
  It is **not** okay to leave dishes in the sink overnight.

Dishes will be washed on:

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
|        |        |         |           |          |        |          |

Who will be washing the dishes on what days:

## GARBAGE:

- We will take turns taking out the garbage utilizing the provided garbage can.
- We will each be responsible for our own garbage **not** utilizing the provided garbage can.

**We expect for your apartment to take your garbage out at minimum once or twice a week:**

Garbage will be taken out on:

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
|        |        |         |           |          |        |          |

Who will be taking the garbage out on what days:

## USE OF STUFF:

Sharing EVERYTHING may not be the healthiest approach:

- We will share food and the cost of purchasing.
  We will have our own food.
- We will share food **ONLY** if apartment mates ask.
  We will have our own cleaning supplies.
- We will share cleaning supplies and cost of purchasing.

**POSSESSIONS:**

\_\_\_ We prefer to use our own belongings and not to share.  
\_\_\_ It's okay to borrow each other's things as long as we ask first.  
Do you have to ask each time? Yes or No ....  
These are the things we agree to share:

---

---

---

---

**ALARM CLOCK:**

\_\_\_ It is okay to allow the alarm clock to play until it is decided to shut off.  
\_\_\_ It is okay to hit the snooze button \_\_\_ number of times.  
\_\_\_ You are not allowed to let the alarm clock continue playing or hit snooze.

**SLEEPING:**

\_\_\_ It is okay to be in the room/common (circle 1 or both) area space while one apartmentmate is sleeping.  
\_\_\_ It is **not** okay to be in the room/common (circle 1 or both) area space if one apartmentmate is sleeping.

**Student Village Quiet Hours and Courtesy Hours are expected to be followed by all apartmentmates.**

The following will **NOT** happen in the room/common area space when one of us is sleeping:

---

---

---

---

**STUDY TIME:**

We will study: \_\_\_ in the morning \_\_\_ during the day \_\_\_ at night  
We will: \_\_\_ play music \_\_\_ have the TV on \_\_\_ have complete silence

**VISITORS AND GUESTS:**

(A guest is defined as any person, who is not currently a Student Village resident, visiting the building and/or a resident that does not reside in your apartment.) Day Guest hours are from 10am – 9:59pm every day.

Day Guests are allowed: Yes or No      Allowed on: Weekends only      Weekdays      Both  
During: Daytime      Evenings      Both

Overnight guests are allowed: Yes or No      Allowed on: Weekends only      Weekdays      Both

What is okay to do with guest while apartmentmate(s) are present? How will you indicate if you need private time with guest?

---

---

---

---

