

# Roommate Contract

## Shared Space Living Agreement 2013-2014

Room / Suite #: \_\_\_\_\_

RCA: \_\_\_\_\_

This document is to be an agreement between the residents within the living space to ensure that each individual's rights and the rights of the community are not infringed upon. Listed below are topics that are common causes of misunderstandings between and among individuals who live together. Residents should discuss each topic, clarify expectations surrounding them, and eventually agree to guidelines with which they are all comfortable. All decisions should take into account sleep / study time as a priority. Establishing open, honest communication and mutually acceptable ground rules early during the semester can help ensure a comfortable living and learning space. Please use this document as a tool to engage in serious consideration / discussion of each of the following topics.

This document should be completed and signed by all residents of the space before the first day of classes. Your RCA will encourage you to revisit this document within two weeks' time, as you are likely to have increased insight into areas in need of further discussion. If conflicts arise throughout the academic year, ask your RCA to facilitate a room discussion in which you will review, revise and reaffirm this agreement.

1. **Guests / Visitors:** Please discuss how many guests are acceptable on weeknights / weekends. Give consideration to whether they will be permitted to spend the night as well as how roommates should be notified. Please note that "while students are permitted to have guests for short periods of time, extended visits are not permitted" (RRR, 2.2.1 Dormitory Regulations).

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2. **Noise Level - Study / Sleep Time:** Studying / sleeping have priority over all other activities. Please discuss one another's sleep habits as well as expectations for the level of noise within the space. Residents should give consideration to the use of television, radio, computers, etc. Please note that "every Princeton dormitory resident has the right to a reasonably quiet environment" (RRR, 2.2.1 Dormitory Regulations). Residents should be mindful of their noise level and how it may impact the community.

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3. **Alcohol/Parties/Drug Use:** Discuss mutual responsibility and the need for mutual decision making regarding the consumption of alcohol, parties and drug use. Please note that "students at Princeton University are responsible for knowing and abiding by both state and University regulations regarding the consumption of alcohol" (RRR, 2.2.9 Alcohol Policy).

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4. **Furnishings / Space:** Please discuss how rooms, beds and desk space will be assigned / arranged as well as how rooms will be decorated. Residents should give consideration to usage of shared items (such as television, MicroFridge, etc.).

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5. **Use of Possessions / Personal Items:** Please discuss expectations regarding the use of personal items. What items are permitted to be used by others, in what state should they be left once used, and which items require permission prior to use? Residents should give special consideration to clothes, computers, beds, books, food, etc.

**6. Cleaning of Living Spaces:** Standards of cleanliness should be clearly articulated (some issues to consider include paper, food, and sanitary waste, dirty clothes, dishes, etc.). Please discuss how residents will divide the cleaning chores as well as how often they should be performed. Give consideration to how concerns will be addressed if standards are not met.

**7. Additional Topics:** It can be useful to discuss delivery of messages, windows / temperature, communication amongst roommates, etc.

We agree to the guidelines listed in this document. Completing this document is the first step in our commitment to one another to openly communicate and discuss all conflicts as they arise. Additionally, we agree to examine this document as necessary, be open to adjustments, and document any changes.

## Signatures

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***Date***[illegible]