



# University of Arizona Roommate Agreement (Double Room)

Room #: \_\_\_\_\_

Welcome to the University of Arizona and Residence Life! We sincerely believe the time and effort you put into answering the questions in this agreement will make your living environment more pleasurable and beneficial.

As stated in our Community Standards, the roommate agreement outlines specific understandings for living together. Violating the terms of this Agreement is prohibited. This Agreement identifies issues that often arise among roommates. It will also help you determine how you plan to resolve them. It is a useful tool that will help you get to know your roommate better and to establish mutual expectations. It promotes communication, assertiveness and compromise, all of which are essential to successful roommate relationships. The Agreement can be renegotiated throughout the year. If I have any questions about the Roommate Agreement, please see your Resident Assistant.

## Roommate Rights

In Residence Life, we believe each student possesses the following rights as a roommate. Each individual should also work at honoring these rights.

The right to:

1. Read, study, and sleep in the room with as little disturbance as possible
2. Have personal belongings which are used by no one else.
3. Live in a clean and orderly room.
4. Enter the room whenever one wants unless other provisions are agreed upon by both parties.
5. Have guests, provided they respect the rights of the roommate.
6. Be free of physical or emotional harassment.
7. Speak out openly.
8. Be treated considerately and thoughtfully.
9. Address problems and concerns in a mature manner.
10. Expect enforcement of residence hall and University policies.

Here are three rules to follow to be a considerate roommate:

1. When you and your roommate experience problems, talk about them instead of letting them frustrate you.
2. Consider what types of personal habits you have which may be irritating to others.
3. Ask your roommate to tell you when you have said or done something that caused irritation.

Now that the purpose of the roommate agreement is clear and you understand what Residence Life expects as the rights of roommates, you can continue to the next pages which have questions for you to ask and answer for each other. Please follow these guidelines with this process.

1. Any information discussed should be kept strictly confidential.
2. Each person should respond to each question before continuing.
3. Answer each question directly, honestly, and appropriately
4. Stop the exercise if any participant becomes uncomfortable or anxious.

## Part 1

The following are questions to promote dialogue between roommates. It is encouraged that roommates utilize these questions as guidelines to “break the ice” and to get to know each other. As you respond, try to talk about more than just the facts. Attempt to express your thoughts and your feelings regarding your life up to this time.

- a) Describe your hometown. What were some of your favorite things to do/places to hang out?
- b) What do you like to do with your free time?
- c) How many brothers and sisters do you have? Younger or older? Names? Ages?
- d) What did you like the most about your high school?
- e) What did you like the least about your high school?
- f) What will you miss most while being away from home?
- g) What will you miss least while being away from home?
- h) Now that you are in college, what are you most excited about? What are you nervous about?
- i) Why did you choose the U of A?

- j) What do you think you would like to major in? Why?
- k) What type of grades do you hope to earn and how important are they to you?
- l) Some of the things I have learned about you are...
- m) One way we seem to be alike is...
- n) I think an important difference between us is...

### Part 2

This section is a continuation of the discussion section. The key to your success as roommates will be communication. If you don't make an attempt to understand how each of you communicates, any efforts at communication may be deemed minimal. Take some time now and complete the following open ended sentences.

- a) ***I get "angry/frustrated" when...***  
Think about your "pet peeves"; situations that you have been in before that caused you to become "angry/frustrated"; think about your values and beliefs and what happens when someone doesn't respect them; etc.
- b) ***When I get "angry/frustrated", I...***  
How do you handle your anger? How do you express your anger? How will your roommate know when you are "angry/frustrated" about something?
- c) ***When you get "angry/frustrated" with me, I expect you to...***  
How do you want your roommate to express their anger? How do you want your roommate to respond to you when they are "angry/frustrated" with you?
- d) ***When I am down or upset, I...***  
How do you express disappointment or sadness? How do you ask for help when you are disappointed or sad?
- e) ***I would prefer to be left alone when...***  
How will your roommate know when you don't want to be bothered? How will your roommate know when you want their advice or help?
- f) ***Something that annoys me is...***  
What are your "pet peeves"? How will your roommate know that they have done/are doing something that annoys you? How do you handle situations when you are annoyed?

### Part 3

This section focuses on more direct ground rules for your room. If any conflicts arise, your RA and/or Hall Director will mediate any roommate conflicts by using this roommate agreement as a tool to help you resolve the issues. Please write on the lines below which roommate is which for the questions where each roommate will respond.

Roommate "A" is \_\_\_\_\_ Roommate "B" is \_\_\_\_\_

#### Section A: Community/Personal Property

By writing "yes" on your line, you are giving your roommate(s) permission. By writing "no" on your line, you are NOT giving them permission. By writing "ask" on your line, you are stating that they must first ask you for permission.

- a) You may use the following possessions of mine:
 

1. Stereo	"A" _____	"B" _____	6. TV	"A" _____	"B" _____
2. Computer	"A" _____	"B" _____	7. Money	"A" _____	"B" _____
3. Appliances	"A" _____	"B" _____	8. Clothes	"A" _____	"B" _____
4. CDs	"A" _____	"B" _____	9. _____	"A" _____	"B" _____
5. Sitting on/ using bed	"A" _____	"B" _____	10. _____	"A" _____	"B" _____
			11. _____	"A" _____	"B" _____

Please write the numbers of the items above that you will also give permission for your roommate(s)' guests to use on your designated line below.

Roommate "A" \_\_\_\_\_ Roommate "B" \_\_\_\_\_

- b) What are the rules as they pertain to food? Can one roommate eat the others food? With or without permission first? Can guests eat food of the roommate? Will food be purchased separately or together?
- c) Who shall be financially responsible if items are broken or lost?
- d) How will we handle phone messages and/or use of the answering machine? The use of the phone (length of calls, messages, call waiting, time of day when calls are NOT appreciated)?
- Phone messages/answering machine (where will they be posted):
  - Phone use (length of calls, answering call waiting, answering call waiting if you are on long distance, time of the day when phone calls are NOT appreciated)
  - Should a roommate answer the cell phone of the other roommate?
- e) If we are getting bottled water for our room, what is the plan to pay the water bill? Who “owns” the bottled water? What happens if one of us moves out of the room?

### Section B: Attitudes/Beliefs

- a) How I feel about smoking by roommate(s) and guests.: (SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED IN RESIDENCE HALL ROOMS):
- Roommate A: \_\_\_\_\_ Roommate B: \_\_\_\_\_
- b) How I feel about overnight guests (of the same gender; of the opposite gender). **Overnight guests are only permitted if BOTH roommates agree. Guests CANNOT stay more than three consecutive nights without the permission of the Hall Director.**
- Roommate A: \_\_\_\_\_ Roommate B: \_\_\_\_\_
- c) Alcohol and drugs/drug paraphernalia - **Review your community standards for policy information including the Presence During a Violation community standard.** (How will I handle situations if you violate community standards? How do I feel about alcohol and drugs/paraphernalia in the room?)
- Roommate A: \_\_\_\_\_ Roommate B: \_\_\_\_\_

### Section C: Responsibilities

- a) I agree to lock the door of our room whenever leaving:  
 “A” \_\_\_\_\_ “B” \_\_\_\_\_
- b) If applicable, I agree to lock the suitemate door of our room whenever leaving:  
 “A” \_\_\_\_\_ “B” \_\_\_\_\_
- c) If the door were left unlocked and any of our possessions were taken, who would be responsible for replacing the property?

- d) We agree to keep our eyes open for individuals who we don't recognize on our floor and take the necessary steps to preserve the safety and property of our fellow residents.  
 "A" \_\_\_\_\_ "B" \_\_\_\_\_
- e) I agree to share the following responsibilities:
- Picking up after myself "A" \_\_\_\_\_ "B" \_\_\_\_\_
  - Sweeping/vacuuming "A" \_\_\_\_\_ "B" \_\_\_\_\_
  - Emptying trash "A" \_\_\_\_\_ "B" \_\_\_\_\_
  - Keeping room tidy "A" \_\_\_\_\_ "B" \_\_\_\_\_
  - Bathrooms (for some rooms in Babcock, Coronado, Villa del Puente, Posada San Pedro, & Pueblo de La Cienega)  
 "A" \_\_\_\_\_ "B" \_\_\_\_\_

If we disagree on the amount of cleanliness/tidiness each can tolerate, we will resolve our problems in the following manner:

- f) We will set aside the following hours for quiet/study time for our room (unless changed by a hall vote through Hall Government, quiet hours are from 10:00 PM-10:00 AM Sunday through Thursday and midnight-10:00 AM on Friday and Saturday):
- Sunday \_\_\_\_\_
  - Monday \_\_\_\_\_
  - Tuesday \_\_\_\_\_
  - Wednesday \_\_\_\_\_
  - Thursday \_\_\_\_\_
  - Friday \_\_\_\_\_
  - Saturday \_\_\_\_\_
- g) Most nights I expect to go to bed by:  
 "A" \_\_\_\_\_ "B" \_\_\_\_\_
- h) Most mornings I expect to get up by:  
 "A" \_\_\_\_\_ "B" \_\_\_\_\_
- i) If I am trying to sleep anytime of the day, it is okay/not okay for you to do the following:
- Talk on the phone "A" \_\_\_\_\_ "B" \_\_\_\_\_
  - Work on the computer "A" \_\_\_\_\_ "B" \_\_\_\_\_
  - Have guests in the room "A" \_\_\_\_\_ "B" \_\_\_\_\_
  - Turn the lights on "A" \_\_\_\_\_ "B" \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_ "A" \_\_\_\_\_ "B" \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_ "A" \_\_\_\_\_ "B" \_\_\_\_\_

**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 it becomes necessary. We agree to continue to communicate assertively with each other (even in situations when we are angry or frustrated.) All roommates are encouraged to sign below:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Roommate A Roommate B

**We, the staff, sincerely hope that you will abide by the terms of this agreement. This form will be kept on file and will be available for your use through your RA as needed for review and revision. Have a great year!**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Resident Assistant Hall Director

