

# GEORGIA DORM ROOMMATE CONTRACT

**Overview:** This document is designed to provide its users the opportunity to establish common guidelines related to the details of their living arrangements. Roommates are encouraged to spend quality time discussing each section, being as forthright and honest with their opinions as possible. The key to every relationship, especially with your roommate, is communication. You need to be open-ask, listen, and discuss. This contract should give you time to discuss your personal living habits and expectations and outline them below.

In addition to abiding by the Student Manual and the Housing and Residence Life Manual, Georgia \_\_\_\_\_ expects you to establish and maintain a healthy relationship with your roommate. Some items to keep in mind:

- It is a privilege to have guests in your room. Both you and your guests need to respect the rights of your roommate(s) and other hall members.
- It is everyone's responsibility to keep the building clean; even yours!
- Respect your roommate's belongings, they are not yours.
- Settle conflicts peacefully. Your Resident Assistant is available to assist you in resolving conflicts.
- Respect the rights of others to read, study and sleep free from undue interference. Unreasonable noise and other distractions inhibit the exercise of these rights.
- Respect your roommate's right to free access of the room.
- Respect the personal privacy of others.
- No one has the right to intimidate or cause physical or emotional harm to another.
- Facilities and fixtures need to be shared.
- While the Residential Life staff will assist you in solving problems, it is your responsibility to actively participate in the solution.

This agreement made on \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_ is a contract between roommates:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

**TERM OR PERIOD OF AGREEMENT**

This agreement is to begin on \_\_\_\_\_ for a term lasting from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. We fully understand and accept the rules and responsibilities of this agreement.

**MEDIATION**

If any of the roommates breaches this contract, all roommates agree to first try to resolve the dispute on their own through mediation. If further attention is need roommates are responsible for scheduling a mediation meeting with the Resident Assistant.

**RESPECT**

Respect shall be the cornerstone for all other categories of this agreement, and for successful housing sharing in general. This respect shall include: Politeness to each other, and to each other’s guests; No talking about confidential roommate matters to others; No posting roommate’s personal information or pictures on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, or any other website; Respect for each other’s religious beliefs and practices.

**In addition, we agree to the following arrangements regarding:**

**FOOD/COOKING/KITCHEN SUPPLIES/KITCHEN CLEAN-UP**

*Draw up specific rules about who is responsible for buying kitchen supplies and food staples; decide if turns will be taken cooking meals and washing dishes; set down rules about food sharing; set general rules like "all dirty dishes must be washed and put away promptly – not left in the sink."*

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**CLEANLINESS/CLEANING SUPPLIES/CLEANING RESPONSIBILITIES**

*Draw up specific rules about who is responsible for keeping which rooms clean: ex/ set a weekly cleaning schedule for the bathroom, kitchen and den; set general house rules like "no clothes on the floor in open areas" or "shoes must be removed upon entering."*

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**PRIVACY/GUESTS/OVERNIGHT GUESTS**

*Roommates are entitled to bring visitors into their room or apartment, but it's important not to abuse this privilege as outlined in your housing agreement. You might also set rules about the frequency of guests & duration of their stay (in accordance with policies outlined in the Student Manual). Ex/ Guest hours and non-guest hours (in accordance with policies outlined in the Student Manual) during the week, weekend, and exam time. You don't want any guest to become an unofficial resident, who lives rent & chore free, while eating your food.*

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**SHARING OF PERSONAL ITEMS**

*Roommates agree to refrain from borrowing personal property without prior approval. Exceptions to this should be clearly stated, with the roommate's reserving the right to change their minds about the sharing of items: Ex/ Writing names on food items, sharing a car, etc. If damage is done to personal property, the roommate responsible for the damage will be held liable. If clothes are borrowed, with permission, the borrower is expected to return the items cleaned.*

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**NOISE/STUDY TIMES & SPACE**

*If there are times when you want the room or apartment to be quiet---for sleep, studying, prayer, or whatever--put this in your contract. Discuss what constitutes noise – must the TV or radio be turned off, are no guests allowed over, etc. Ex/ what are the quiet hours going to be? Discuss how much you plan to use the apartment as a study area, or for holding study groups.*

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**SMOKING, DRINKING, DRUGS**

*The legal age to drink alcohol in the state of Georgia is 21 years old. No resident under the age of 21 is permitted to drink alcohol. Smoking is expressly prevented in all apartments. Violators of this policy will face disciplinary actions. The use, attempt to obtain, possession or distribution of narcotics, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, hallucinogens, and any other dangerous or controlled drugs not prescribed by a properly licensed physician is prohibited on or off campus. Students who violate these laws are subject to eviction. Freshmen who violate these policies during Retreat Week will be evicted immediately.*

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**PARTIES/ENTERTAINING**

*No more than 10 people are allowed in University Village apartments at one time. Violators of this policy will face disciplinary actions. It would be helpful for roommates to set hours of when entertaining guest during the week. Ex/ No entertaining guest after 1a.m. Monday- Thursday.*

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