

## Complete a Roommate Agreement

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### Purpose of the Roommate Agreement

- ◆ To prepare for the move
- ◆ To ensure that living together will be fun and safe
- ◆ To communicate each person's expectations so that you understand your responsibilities and each other
- ◆ To create a cleaning system that fairly divides the household chores and keeps your apartment looking as good as the day you moved in
- ◆ To create a system of conflict resolution that will help you address problems in a respectful, effective manner

### 1. Items for the Apartment

	Person 1	Person 2	Person 3	Purchase Individually	Purchase Jointly
<b>Shared Items</b>					
Living room couch					
Living room chairs					
Common room lamps					
Plates					
Cups and glasses					
Kitchen utensils					
Flatware					
Staple food					
Pots and pans					
Cleaning supplies					
Pictures/plants					
Kitchen towels					
Washcloths					
Bath mat					
Shower curtain					
Bathroom accessories					
Telephone					
Answering machine					
<b>Individual Items</b>					
Bathroom towels					
Bed linens					
Pillows					
Alarm clocks					

## 2. Utilities

How do you want to arrange your telephone?

- No phone/shared phone?
- Long distance?
- 900 block?
- Block on collect calls?
- Whose name will it be in? \_\_\_\_\_
- When will this person order service? \_\_\_\_\_

How do you want to arrange Gas & Electric?

- Whose name will it be in? \_\_\_\_\_
- When will this person order service? \_\_\_\_\_

How do you want to arrange Cable?

- What level of service will we order? \_\_\_\_\_
- Whose name will it be in? \_\_\_\_\_
- When will this person order service? \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Determine Cleaning Schedule:**

Cleaning Task	What does this include?	How frequently will it be done?	Who is responsible?
Bathroom			
Living Room			
Dishes			
Kitchen			
Dining Room			
Patio			
Entryway			
Vacuum downstairs			
Vacuum upstairs			
Mopping Floors			
Take out garbage			
Kitchen floor mopped			

#### 4. Conflict Resolution

Conflict is a natural part of life. Even BEST friends can get mad at each other sometimes. Conflict is particularly difficult when the two people live together. When conflict happens, it is important that people resolve it in a manner that is respectful and considerate.

#### 5 Steps to Address Conflict Resolution between Roommates:

- Address issues with your roommate BEFORE you get really mad about it; don't let your anger build up.
- Remember that people live differently, and have different opinions about the way a household should be run. Don't assume that your way is the only way.
- If you are upset about something, ask your roommate if the two of you can sit down and discuss it. Discussing the issue directly with your roommate is the adult way to fix the problem. Do not call the police unless a criminal violation has occurred.
- When you discuss the issue, try not to BLAME one another. Instead, think of creative ways to get past the problem.
- If you can not resolve the issue, contact a friend, mentor, etc. to help mediate the discussion. This will give both roommates an opportunity to discuss their concerns and develop a plan for addressing the problem.

**Scenario 1:** Michelle started dating a new boyfriend, Jeff, about three months ago. Jeff comes over several nights a week to watch television with Michelle. Although Regina likes Jeff, she would like some time in her living room without Jeff and Michelle cuddling on the couch. So far Regina hasn't said anything, but she is starting to get annoyed with Jeff and Michelle.

**Scenario 2:** Regina normally comes home from work around 9:00 p.m., makes dinner and goes to bed in order to wake up for her morning class. She often leaves her dishes in the sink and doesn't get around to washing them for two or three days. She also leaves crumbs on the counter. Michelle has started noticing a few ants in the kitchen, and is getting tired of washing Regina's dishes.

## 5. Ground Rules for the Apartment

**Rent:** When is it due? What happens if it is not paid by the due date?

**Visitors:** How many are allowed each week? Each month? Who is responsible for their behavior?

**Maintenance:** Who do you call? What is considered an emergency?

**Standards of Cleanliness:** What are they? (dishes, bathrooms, rugs, floors, patio, garbage)

**Keys:** How many sets do you get? Who should have your keys? Who pays for lost keys?

**Drugs & Alcohol:** Are they allowed? What happens if you have drugs or alcohol in your apartment?

Additional ground rules for YOUR apartment. To help you think of some, try to remember some of the conflicts you have had with people you have lived with.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

### Statement of Roommate Cooperation

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have worked together with my  
roommate(s), \_\_\_\_\_ to determine the following:

1. ground rules for our apartment
2. a process to resolve roommate conflict
3. a cleaning schedule
4. a plan for turning on our utilities
5. a list of items for the apartment.

By signing this document, I agree to follow the plan and make the most sincere effort possible to make our housing opportunity a successful one.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roommate 1

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roommate 2

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roommate 3

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Independent Living Program Activity Card**

**Category: RELATIONSHIPS**

**Activity: Complete a Roommate Agreement**

Proficiency  
Certificate  
Eligible

Description:

If you currently have a roommate or plan to room with someone in the near future please complete the roommate agreement form with them. If you don't have a roommate, but would like to complete this assignment with a friend, that is OK too. To learn more about the purpose of a roommate agreement see the bullet points at the top of the roommate agreement form.

Total Dollars Earned:

 (ILP Use Only)
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You may earn \$10.00 ILP dollars for completing this assignment.
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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

_____ Youth Signature	_____ Group Home (If Applicable)
_____ Print Name (Youth)	

<b>Receipt</b>
(ILP Use Only)