

# International Student Guidelines for Living in an American Home



## ○ At the front door:

- Leave wet or muddy shoes at the door.
- Lock the door when you leave.
- Don't share your family's house key with anyone else.
- Turn off the lights when you leave a room or the home.



## ○ In the kitchen:

- Put away food after you take it out.
- Put your dirty dishes in the dishwasher.
- Wipe the counter tops after you cook or eat.
- Sweep or wipe up when you spill on the floor.
- Turn off the oven, stove burners and small appliances when you are finished.



## ○ In your bedroom:

- Vacuum or sweep your room once a week
- Empty the garbage can in your room.
- Don't leave old food or unwashed food containers in your bedroom.
- Keep your clothes put away.



## ○ In the bathroom:

- Put toilet paper in the toilet after you use it.
- Flush after each use.
- Put toilet seat cover down after each use.
- If you spill on toilet or floor, clean up right away.
- Clean toothpaste or hair from the sink when you finish.
- Put your personal products away each day.
- Girls do make-up and hair in your bedroom unless you have a bathroom for your use only.
- Hang your wet towel or washcloth after use.
- Put shower curtain “inside” shower during your shower.
- Dry the floor if it gets wet.
- Use the shower for 10 minutes only to conserve hot water for others.



## ○ In the family room or living room:

- Turn off TV or computer when you are the last person to use it.
- Take dirty dishes to kitchen.
- Put your shoes, clothes and school books away in your bedroom.



## ○ Inviting friends to your homestay:

- Introduce your friends to your homestay family and give your homestay family their phone numbers.
- Ask your family how late friends may stay on weekdays and weekends.
- Call your homestay if you will be arriving home late or staying the night at friends.
- Ask your homestay family for permission to have friends overnight and follow their guidelines.

..... The most successful families talk to each other when the problems happen. ....

If you don't understand your homestay family guidelines, ask your homestay family to help you understand or contact us.

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