That or Who or Which?

Trying to figure out when you should use *that* and when you should use *who* or *which* is a matter of good news and bad news.

**The good news is**

Knowing when to use *who* instead of *that* is relatively easy!

This is because there is one simple rule regarding the use of *who*:
Use who when you are referring to a person.

The student who is sitting across the room is really smart.

A student is a person, so you would use who.

The bad news is

The rules regarding the use of which and that are a little more complicated.

Choosing when to use which and when to use that all comes down to one thing:

Are you dealing with a restrictive or a nonrestrictive clause?
**If you have a restrictive clause, you can use that.**

**BUT**

**If you have a nonrestrictive clause, you have to use which.**

**Consider:**

(nonrestrictive)

The first day of the month, **which is a Monday**, is the due date for the assignment.

The day **that the assignment is due** is Monday.
(restrictive)