

COMPLETING THE PARENTING PLAN, PARENT- CREATED Joint Legal and Sole Physical Custody

IMPORTANT: Use of the Joint Legal And Sole Physical Custody Parenting Plan is intended only for those cases in which:

- Both parents voluntarily and willingly agree to share joint legal custody of the children (decision-making).

and

- Both parents voluntarily and willingly agree one parent will have primary (sole) physical custody of the children (where the children live) and the other parent will have parenting time that is described in this plan.

This sample plan is only a guide. You must consider your own situation and develop a parenting plan that works for both of the parents and your children.

This parenting plan will list who the children will live with and how holidays and special days will be shared.

- If you want items in your parenting plan that are not in this sample, you can add them.
- If you do not want items in your parenting plan that are in this sample, you can take them out.
 - For example, you may want to add or remove some holidays;
 - Change time periods, the method of pick up, and return times for parenting time;
 - Change the length of time for summer parenting time, etc.
 - If you observe other holidays that are not included in this sample, you can add language to your plan about those.

This is your parenting plan, and it should meet your individual needs.

- The parenting plan provides a legal “fall back” plan for parents to use if there is a need.
- The parents can informally or temporarily change the terms of this plan as long as they both agree to it. However, if there is a disagreement, the details in this plan control the parenting time.
- This plan may be formally changed if both parents agree to it in writing. The parents understand that any permanent changes must be approved by the court to be binding and enforceable.

REMEMBER: your parenting plan will be reviewed by the judge and will need to be court ordered before it takes legal effect.

If you are printing the form and handwriting the answer, check the first box. If you are completing the form on the computer, check the second box.

Enter the name of the plaintiff.

Enter the case number.

Enter the name of the county where the case was filed.

Enter "Plaintiff" or "Defendant" to say who the children will live with.

Enter "Plaintiff" or "Defendant" to say who the children will have parenting time with but will not live with.

Page 1 of 8

☒ Printing the form and handwriting the answers.
☐ Completing the form electronically.

PARENTING PLAN PARENT-CREATED
(Joint Legal and Sole Physical Custody)

The parents wish to have this Parenting Plan approved by the court in the case of _____ vs. _____
(plaintiff's full name) (defendant's full name)

case no. _____, filed in the District Court of _____
(case number assigned by clerk of court) County, Nebraska. The parents mutually agree as follows:
(county where Complaint filed)

1. The best interests of the minor child(ren) will be maintained through the ongoing involvement of both of the parents with the child(ren).
2. The best interests of the minor child(ren) will be maintained by ensuring regular and continuous school attendance and progress for school-age child(ren).
3. The parents agree that each is a fit person to be involved in the parenting of the child(ren).
4. The parents will remain active and involved in parenting the child(ren).
5. The purpose for this Plan is to establish custody, parenting time and other access arrangements, to determine parenting time to be spent with the parents, and to decide how to deal with any future disagreements between the parents regarding this Plan.
6. The parents understand that the needs of the child(ren) may change as the child(ren) get(s) older and the parents will interpret and apply this Plan in a way that best serves any changing needs of the child(ren).
7. The parents agree to joint legal custody. Joint legal custody means mutual authority and responsibility of the parents for making mutual fundamental decisions regarding the child(ren)'s welfare, including but not limited to choices regarding education, health, and spiritual or religious upbringing.
8. _____ will have sole physical custody. Physical custody means (Plaintiff or Defendant) authority and responsibility regarding the child(ren)'s place of residence and the exertion of continuous parenting time for significant periods of time. _____'s parenting time with the children is set out in this plan (Plaintiff or Defendant) below.

Enter the name of the defendant.

This section tells how the parents plan to share the holidays and other special days with the children.

Page 2 of 8

Enter "plaintiff" or "defendant" to say who the children will have parenting time with but will **not** live with.

If you choose number 1, complete the information for that section.
If you choose number 2, give a description of the parenting time schedule.

9. Parenting Time: _____ will have parenting time with the
(plaintiff or defendant)
child(ren) as follows:

A. (Check the box that applies):

1. ☐ Weekends: Every other weekend from _____
(beginning day)
beginning at _____ : _____ ☐ am ☐ pm until _____
(beginning time) (ending day)
at _____ : _____ ☐ am ☐ pm.
(ending time)
Weekdays: On _____ each week from _____ : _____
(day(s) of the week) (beginning time)
☐ am ☐ pm to _____ : _____ ☐ am ☐ pm.
(ending time)

(OR)

2. ☐ The schedule for parenting time will be as follows: (complete with the arrangements you have reached)

To ensure that the Parenting Plan meets the requirements of the Parenting Act, one parent or the other must have responsibility for the child(ren) at all times which means 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.

Enter what holidays the plaintiff will have the children in even numbered years and in odd numbered years.

Enter what holidays the defendant will have the children in even numbered years and in odd numbered years.

For each of the holidays listed, complete the beginning and ending time. For any holiday you will not be including, you may cross through the section.

B. Holidays and other Special Days:

1. The plaintiff will have the following holidays:
Even numbered years: _____

Odd numbered years: _____

2. The defendant will have the following holidays:
Even numbered years: _____

Odd numbered years: _____

3. Holidays and other special days will be defined as follows:
(you may add holidays and special days below or delete them by crossing them out)

(a) **Easter:** This holiday will include that period of time during which the child(ren) is/are excused from school before the Easter holiday, including Easter Sunday, and will begin at _____ : _____ ☐ am ☐ pm on the day the child(ren) is/are
(beginning time)
released from school and end at _____ : _____ ☐ am ☐ pm
(ending time)
on the day before the child(ren) return(s) to school.

(b) **Memorial Day weekend:** This holiday will include only that weekend when Memorial Day is nationally recognized and will begin at _____ : _____ ☐ am ☐ pm on Friday and end
(beginning time)
at _____ : _____ ☐ am ☐ pm on Monday, Memorial Day.
(ending time)

(c) **Fourth of July:** This holiday will begin on July 4th at _____ : _____ ☐ am ☐ pm and end on July 5th
(beginning time)
at _____ : _____ ☐ am ☐ pm
(ending time)

The Fourth of July plan takes priority over those days during summer parenting time.

For each of the holidays listed, complete the beginning and ending time. For any holiday you will not be including, you may cross through the section.

(d) **Labor Day weekend:** This holiday will include only that weekend on which Labor Day is nationally recognized and will begin at ____:____ ☐ am ☐ pm on Friday and end at ____:____ ☐ am ☐ pm on Monday, Labor Day.
(beginning time)
(ending time)

(e) **Thanksgiving:**
(Check the box that applies):

1. ☐ This holiday will be defined as that period of time during which the child(ren) is/are excused from school for the Thanksgiving holiday, including Thanksgiving day, and will begin at ____:____ ☐ am ☐ pm on the day the child(ren) is/are released from school and end at ____:____ ☐ am ☐ pm on the day before the child(ren) return(s) to school.
(beginning time)
(ending time)
(OR)

2. ☐ The parents will schedule the Thanksgiving holiday as follows:

(f) **Christmas/Winter Holiday:**
(Check the box that applies):

1. ☐ The holiday will have two parts:
Part one will begin at ____:____ ☐ am ☐ pm on the day the child(ren) are released from school and end at ____:____ ☐ am ☐ pm on December 27th.
(beginning time)
(ending time)
Part two will begin at ____:____ ☐ am ☐ pm on December 27th and end the day before school begins at ____:____ ☐ am ☐ pm.
(beginning time)
(ending time)
(OR)

If you have agreed on a different schedule for Thanksgiving, write the details on the lines.

If you have agreed on a different schedule for Christmas/Winter holiday, write the details on the lines.

For each of the holidays listed, complete the beginning and ending time. For any holiday you will not be including, you may cross through the section.

Enter "Plaintiff" or "Defendant" to say who the children will have parenting time with during the summer. List the number of weeks for summer parenting time.

2. ☐ The parents will schedule the Christmas/Winter holiday as follows:

(g) **The Child(ren)'s Birthdays:** This will be the actual day of the child(ren)'s birthday, and will begin at _____ (beginning time)
☐ am ☐ pm and will end at _____ (ending time) ☐ am ☐ pm.

(h) **Father's/Mother's Day:** Every year _____ will have the child(ren) on Father's Day and _____ will have the child(ren) on Mother's Day. This holiday will begin at _____ (beginning time) ☐ am ☐ pm and end at _____ (ending time) ☐ am ☐ pm on the Sunday on which this holiday is nationally observed.

(i) **Other Holidays/School Breaks**
Other holiday: _____
Other holiday: _____
Other holiday: _____
Other holiday: _____

C. **Summer Parenting Schedule:**
_____ will have _____ weeks of
(Plaintiff or Defendant) (number of weeks)
summer parenting time.

For any other holidays or school breaks write the details on the lines. Use extra pages if you need to list more.

Complete the details of when the summer parenting time begins and ends.

For details of when the parent that the children normally live with will have parenting time during the summer, describe on the lines.

Choose an option on the priority of holiday parenting time and regular parenting time.

Complete this section for telephone and virtual parenting time.

Complete this section for how the exchange of the children will happen or complete the details on the lines on the next page.

The summer schedule will begin on _____ at _____ ☐ am ☐ pm and end on _____ at _____ ☐ am ☐ pm.
(beginning day) (beginning time) (ending day) (ending time)

During the time the noncustodial parent has the child(ren) for the summer parenting schedule, the custodial parent will have the following parenting time with the child(ren):

10. Priority of Holiday Parenting Time Schedules: Holiday parenting time schedule takes priority over the regular parenting time schedule.
(Check the box that applies):
 1. ☐ The regular weekend parenting schedule will skip the holiday and be carried forward to the weekend following.
As an example, suppose the plaintiff's regular weekend parenting time with the child(ren) falls during the Labor Day holiday in a year when the child(ren) is/are with the defendant for Labor Day. Because Labor Day is a holiday, it takes priority and the child(ren) have parenting time with the defendant. Beginning the first weekend following the holiday, regular alternating weekend parenting time is carried forward so that the plaintiff has the first weekend following the holiday.
 (OR)
 2. ☐ Regular parenting time will remain unchanged regardless of holiday parenting time even if it creates a situation where one parent may have the child(ren) three consecutive weekends.

11. Telephone/Virtual Parenting Access: The parent who does not have the child(ren) will have telephone-parenting time with the child(ren) on _____ each week, between _____ ☐ am ☐ pm and _____ ☐ am ☐ pm for not less than _____ minutes.
(day of the week) (beginning time) (ending time) (number of minutes)

12. Child(ren)'s Transition—Responsibility for Exchange:
(Check the box that applies):
 1. ☐ Each parent will pick up the child(ren) at the beginning of their parenting time.
 (OR)

Continued from
the exchange
section from the
previous page.

2. ☐ The parents agree to the following exchange plan:

13. **Being on Time.** Both parents understand that they have the responsibility to be on time. If either parent will be late for some reason, or will be unable to exercise parenting time, that parent will notify the other parent as soon as possible. The parents understand that fifteen (15) minutes is a reasonable time for a parent to wait in order to pick up or return the child(ren).
14. **Scheduling Activities.** One parent may not plan or schedule activities during the parenting time of the other parent without reasonable notice to and consent of the other parent.
15. **Child(ren)'s Events.** The parents will inform each other, reasonably in advance, of all events where a parent may participate in the child(ren)'s activities or events (i.e., school plays, athletic events, teacher conferences, music recitals, and the like). Notice will be provided in such a way that the other parent has the maximum opportunity to attend that activity or event.
16. **Parenting Behavior.** The child(ren)'s best interests require the utmost cooperation between the parents. To this end, neither parent will talk badly about or in any way be negative about the other parent in front of the child(ren) or in any activity or communication involving the child(ren). Neither parent will ask about the other's personal affairs through the child(ren). The parents will cooperate with each other, to the fullest extent necessary, in order to encourage a safe, secure, and loving environment for the child(ren).
17. **Access to Information.** Each parent shall continue to have full and equal access to the education and medical records of the minor child(ren). The names of both parents will appear on all school, governmental, law enforcement, medical and health-related records, and both parents will be provided full and equal access to all teachers, government officials and doctors.
18. **Emergency Medical.** Either parent may make emergency decisions affecting the health or safety of the minor child(ren) while the child(ren) is/are in the physical custody of such parent.
19. **Temporary Changes.** The parents can temporarily change the terms of this Plan *as long as they both agree to it.*

20. **Permanent Changes.** This Plan may be changed by mutual, written agreement of the parents. Both parents understand that any permanent changes must be approved by the court to be binding and enforceable.
21. **Mediation for Future Disputes.** In the event one or both of the parents wish to change the terms of this Plan in the future and the parents are unable to agree on the terms of such change, the parents will attempt to mediate their disagreements.
22. **Notification Requirement for Current and Change of Address and Contact Information.** If there is a change of address or contact information, each parent will notify the other parent by mailing the change of address to the last known mailing address. Exception: If one parent has a confidential address under Nebraska or federal law, the address or return address shall only include the county and state for a party who is living or moving to an undisclosed location.
23. **Out-of-State Change of Residence.** The child(ren)'s residence will not be changed from the State of Nebraska without prior order of the court.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Printed Name: _____
Street Address/P.O. Box: _____
City/State/ZIP Code: _____
Telephone Number: _____
Email address: _____

If completed by an attorney:
Bar Number: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Printed Name: _____
Street Address/P.O. Box: _____
City/State/ZIP Code: _____
Telephone Number: _____
Email address: _____

If completed by an attorney:
Bar Number: _____

If this form is being completed by an attorney, enter your Bar Number.

The plaintiff will sign and date the form. Enter their printed name, address, telephone number, and email address.

If this form is being completed by an attorney, enter your Bar Number.

The defendant will sign and date the form. Enter their printed name, address, telephone number, and email address.