

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
JUDICIAL BRANCH
<http://www.courts.state.nh.us>

**STANDARD ORDER OF PARAGRAPHS AND
INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARENTING PLAN**

Standard order of paragraphs: All parties in cases seeking parental rights and responsibilities for minor children must file an agreed upon or proposed Parenting Plan prior to the temporary hearing and the final hearing. You may complete the court's Parenting Plan form, or may create your own document. If you choose to create your own document, you must follow the standard order of lettered paragraphs set forth below.

A. Decision Making Responsibility

1. Major Decisions
2. Day-to-Day Decisions
3. Other

B. Residential Responsibility & Parenting Schedule

1. Routine Schedule
2. Holiday and Birthday Planning
3. Three-day weekends
4. Vacation Schedule
5. Supervised Parenting Time
6. Other Parental Responsibilities

C. Legal Residence of a Child for School Attendance

D. Transportation and Exchange of the Child(ren)

E. Information Sharing and Access, Including Telephone and Electronic Access

1. Parent-Child Telephone Contact
2. Parent-Child Written Communication

F. Relocation of a Residence of a Child

G. Procedure for Review and Adjustment of Parenting Plan

H. Method(s) for Resolving Disputes

I. Other Parenting Agreements Attached

Standard Order of Paragraphs and Instructions for Parenting Plan

Instructions:

You must decide whether this plan is either **agreed upon** by both parties or **proposed by one party**, then check the correct box. You should not check the box "Developed by Court," as this box is checked only by the court when the court is completing this form.

Next, decide whether you are seeking a **temporary** order, a **final** order, or if you are seeking to **modify a prior order** of the court, and then check the correct box.

Print the names and dates of birth for each child involved in the parenting plan.

A. Decision-Making Responsibility:

1. Decide who will be responsible for making major decisions for your child(ren), then check either (a) joint decision-making or (b) sole decision-making. If you choose (b), you must list which parent will have sole decision-making responsibility.
2. Each parent will be responsible for day-to-day decisions when parenting the child(ren).
3. List any other details about decision-making responsibility.

B. Residential Responsibility & Parenting Schedule:

1. Routine schedule: Decide whether the child(ren) will reside (a) solely with one parent, (b) primarily with one parent, with specific parenting time with the other parent, or (c) with both parents on a schedule where the parents have equal or approximately equal parenting time with the child(ren). Then check the correct box and describe the details.
2. Holiday/birthday(s) schedule: If you do not want a holiday schedule, check (a), so that the routine schedule will apply to holidays/birthday(s). If you believe you can agree how to divide parenting time on holidays without specifying details, check (b). To have specific details about holidays/birthday(s) set forth in the parenting plan, check (c). Then check any holiday/birthday(s) you wish, adding any others not listed, then describe who will have parenting time. Make sure to include start and end times and dates as necessary.
3. Three-day weekends: If you do not want a three-day weekend schedule, check box (a) and the routine schedule will apply. If you want the parent who has the child on the weekend before each Monday holiday to have parenting time on that holiday, check box (b). If you want to specify details for three-day weekends, check box (c), check any holiday you wish, and describe who will have parenting time. Make sure to include start and end times and dates as necessary. You may describe parenting time for other three-day weekends, for example, weekends near a school in-service day, in this section.
4. Vacation schedule:
 - a. Choose a schedule for December vacation.
 - b. Choose a schedule for February, April and summer vacations.
 - c. Specify any details about other vacations.
5. Supervised Parenting Time: If there are no restrictions on parenting time, check "not applicable". Otherwise, specify the restrictions or limitations.
6. Other Parental Responsibilities: The first two paragraphs are standard for all parenting plans. The remaining paragraphs, (a) through (e), may be checked as you wish. Under (f), you may set forth other parental responsibilities.

Standard Order of Paragraphs and Instructions for Parenting Plan

C. Legal Residence of Child for School Attendance:

If one parent has sole or primary residential responsibility, the child's legal residence for school purposes is where that parent resides. If parenting time is equal or approximately equal, you may select whether the child's legal residence for school purposes will be where the mother or father resides.

D. Transportation and Exchange of Child(ren):

Specify how the child(ren) will be transported, where any exchanges will take place, who will pay transportation costs, and any other details about transportation or exchanges.

E. Information Sharing and Access:

This section sets forth specific rights each parent has regarding information sharing and access. Choose the flexibility of telephone contact under E(1), and the flexibility of Written Communication under E(2).

F. Relocation of a Residence of a Child:

The statute in section F(1) controls moving a child's residence if they live at that residence for more than 150 days a year. It does not control whether or how far away a parent may move when the child lives with that parent less than 150 days. If you anticipate that this will become an issue, you should check one of the options under F(2), specifying relocation details that cover either parent, as well as any other relocation details.

G. Procedure for Review and Adjustment of Parenting Plan:

This section asks you to decide how often in the future parents will meet to review and adjust this parenting plan.

H. Method(s) for Resolving Disputes:

This section asks you to decide how you will resolve disagreements that arise in the future regarding parenting issues.

I. Other Parenting Agreements:

You may list other parenting agreements here. If such agreements are lengthy and require attaching separate sheets of paper, please note the number of attached pages.

Signatures:

For agreed upon parenting plans, each party must sign and date the plan on the last page. It is also recommended that each party review each page and initial the bottom left corner of each page indicating their understanding that they are agreeing to each provision on that page.

For proposed parenting plans, only the party submitting this plan need sign.

All signatures should be witnessed, either by the party's attorney or another person. There is also a signature line for the Guardian ad Litem, if s/he was involved in the creation of this parenting plan.