

Parenting Plan Checklist

1. Where the children will reside: percentage of time; primary v dual residence
2. Weekly schedule
3. Holiday and Vacation Periods
 - a. spring and winter vacations
 - b. summers
 - c. Halloween
 - d. Thanksgiving day weekend
 - e. Jewish Holidays
 - f. Christmas Day/Eve; Easter
 - g. New Years Day/Eve
 - h. July 4th, Memorial Day, Labor Day
 - i. Three day weekends resulting from school/legal holidays
 - j. Other holidays
 - k. Children's birthdays
 - l. Mother's and Father's Day
 - m. Parents Birthdays
 - n. Grandparent visits
 - o. How holiday schedules affect weekly schedules
4. Transportation and Transitions
5. The Two Home Shuffle
 - a. toys
 - b. clothes
 - c. books
 - d. pets
 - e. homework
 - f. back to school nights
 - g. children centered activities
 - h. Continuity Between Different Residences
 - a. similar sleep and nap schedule
 - b. agreement about foods in both houses
6. Being on Time, Denying Access, Respecting the Schedule
7. Telephone access when the children are with the other parent

8. Fostering affection, respect, and encouraging visitations with the other parent vs disparaging remarks
9. Substitute Child Care
 - a. other parent has right of first refusal
 - b. when
 - c. how
10. Decision Making – How? When?
11. Access to information from schools, doctors, dentists, etc
12. Parental Communication:
 - a. how often
 - b. time
 - c. method
13. Health and Well Being
 - a. substance abuse
 - b. driving, seatbelts, helmets
 - c. smoking
14. Guns
15. Medical Appointments/alternative medical treatments
16. Psychotherapy
17. College Education
18. Future Review of Parenting Arrangements
 - a. annually?
 - b. remarriage or cohabitation of other parent
 - c. change in employment schedule
 - d. possible future moves
 - e. disability
 - f. child's wishes
 - g. alcohol or drug abuse
19. Religious Upbringing
20. Future Conflict Resolution Process

Additional Potential Issues for Resolution

1. Explaining the agreement to your children
2. If extended family members or close friends are fueling the dispute
3. Moving
4. When parenting styles and values differ
5. When a parent needs parenting skills
6. When parents have new partners
7. If the homes are far apart
8. Re-involving an absent parent
9. Driving or owning a car, motorcycle or off road vehicle
10. International Travel or passports