

Guideline for Parenting Time in Kent County

There are a number of considerations that should be made before completing the attached guideline. All families are different, so parenting plans should be customized based on the facts. MCL722.27a (6) provides guidance on what the court may consider when determining the frequency, duration and type of parenting time. These factors are:

- (a) The existence of any special circumstances or needs of the child.
- (b) Whether the child is a nursing child less than 6 months of age, or less than 1 year of age if the child receives substantial nutrition through nursing.
- (c) The reasonable likelihood of abuse or neglect of the child during parenting time.
- (d) The reasonable likelihood of abuse of a parent resulting from the exercise of parenting time.
- (e) The inconvenience to, and burdensome impact or effect on, the child traveling for purposes of parenting time.
- (f) Whether a parent can reasonably be expected to exercise parenting time in accordance with the court order.
- (g) Whether a parent has frequently failed to exercise reasonable parenting time.
- (h) The threatened or actual detention of the child with the intent to retain or conceal the child from the other parent or from a third person who has legal custody. A custodial parent's temporary residence with the child in a domestic violence shelter shall not be construed as evidence a custodial parent's intent to retain or conceal the child from the other parent.

In addition, there are some other considerations that can be looked at, such as:

- The flexibility of the parents' schedules
- The developmental stage of the child/ren
- Special needs or restrictions of a parent
- Ability of the parents to communicate and cooperate
- Conflict level between the parents
- Distance between the homes of the parents
- The maturity level of the child/ren
- Child/ren's commitment to community such as work, school events, or participation in other activities
- The child/ren's cultural and religious practices
- The nature of the parent/child relationship at the present time
- Parental fitness concerns, such as domestic violence, substance abuse or mental health issues
- The parent's ability to care for the child/ren and meet the needs of the child/ren
- The parent's availability to meet the needs of the child/ren
- When determining the breaks from school, consider the number of exchanges

These are suggestions and are not intended to be all inclusive.

Case Number _____
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The court order for parenting time is that time that can be enforced by the court to guarantee that the child/ren have the opportunity to have a positive relationship with both parents. The more specific the parenting time order is, the more likely efficient and effective parenting time enforcement can take place. Only one check is to be used in each area of parenting time. No check in an area indicates there is no ordered parenting under that provision.

Unless otherwise specified in this document, the following parenting time is for:

Mother Father (circle one)

WEEKENDS:

Select one:

_____ Alternating from Friday at 6:00 p.m. to Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

_____ Alternating from Saturday at 10:00 a.m. to Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

_____ Alternating from Saturday at 10:00 a.m. to Saturday at 6:00 p.m. and from Sunday at 10:00 a.m. to Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

_____ Alternating from Friday at 6:00 p.m. to Monday at 6:00 p.m.

_____ Alternating from Friday at 6:00 p.m. to Saturday at 6:00 p.m.

_____ Alternating from _____ to _____

_____ First three full weekends of the month from Friday at 6:00 p.m. to Sunday at 6:00 p.m. The first weekend of the month commences with the first Friday of the month.

_____ Other: _____

MIDWEEK:

Select one:

_____ Every Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

_____ Every Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

_____ Every Monday starting at 6:00 p.m. to Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

_____ Every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. to Friday at 6:00 p.m.

_____ Every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. to Thursday at 8:00 a.m.

_____ Every Monday and Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

_____ Every _____ from the time school is released to _____.

_____ Every _____ from _____ to _____.

_____ Other: _____

HOLIDAYS: These take precedence over all other parenting time.

Select one:

_____ Mother's day with Mother and Father's Day with Father from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

_____ Mother's Day with Mother and Father's Day with Father from 6:00 p.m. Saturday to 8:00 p.m. Sunday

Alternating as follows:

Even numbered years with Mother and Odd numbered years with Father

Select one:

_____ **Easter-** from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

_____ **Easter-** from 6:00 p.m. Saturday to 8:00 p.m. Sunday

_____ **Easter-** from Friday at 6:00 p.m. to Sunday at 8:00 p.m.

Select one:

_____ **Fourth of July-** from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

_____ **Fourth of July-** from 9:00 a.m. July 4 to 9:00 a.m. July 5

_____ **Fourth of July-** from 9:00 a.m. July 4 to 6:00 p.m. July 5

Select one:

_____ **Thanksgiving-** from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

_____ **Thanksgiving-** from 9:00 a.m. Thursday to 9:00 a.m. Friday

_____ **Thanksgiving-** from Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. to Friday at 6:00 p.m.

_____ **Thanksgiving-** from Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. to Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

Select one:

_____ **Christmas-** from December 24 at 9:00 p.m. to December 25 at 9:00 p.m.

_____ **Christmas-** from December 25 at 10:00 a.m. to December 26 at 10:00 a.m.

Odd numbered year for Mother and Even numbered year for father

Select one:

_____ **Memorial Day-** from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

_____ **Memorial Day-** from Sunday at 6:00 p.m. to Monday at 8:00 p.m.

_____ **Memorial Day** –from 6:00 p.m. Friday to 8:00 p.m. Monday

Select one:

_____ **Labor Day-** from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

_____ **Labor Day-** from Sunday at 6:00 p.m. to Monday at 8:00 p.m.

_____ **Labor Day-** from 6:00 p.m. Friday to 8:00 p.m. Monday

Select one:

_____ **Christmas Eve-** from December 23 at 6:00 p.m. to December 24 at 9:00 p.m.

_____ **Christmas Eve-** from December 24 at 6:00 p.m. to December 25 at 10:00 a.m.

EXTENDED PARENTING TIME:

Select one:

_____ Each parent is entitled to one week of uninterrupted parenting time with 90 days advanced written notice to the other parent, and copy to the Friend of the Court. The week is defined as 7 consecutive overnights beginning with the parent's own regularly scheduled weekend.

_____ Each parent is entitled to up to two non-consecutive weeks of uninterrupted parenting time each year with 90 days advanced written notice to the other parent, and copy to the Friend of the Court. The week is defined as 7 consecutive overnights beginning with the parent's own regularly scheduled weekend.

_____ Each parent is entitled to up to three weeks of uninterrupted parenting time each year with 90 days advanced written notice to the other parent, and copy to the Friend of the Court. This time is to be scheduled to minimize the number of weekends used of the other parent's time.

_____ Each parent is entitled to four weeks of uninterrupted parenting time each year with 90 days advanced written notice to the other parent, and copy to the Friend of the Court. This time is to be scheduled to minimize the number of weekends used of the other parent's time.

_____ Each parent is entitled to five weeks of uninterrupted parenting time each year with 90 days advanced written notice to the other parent, and copy to the Friend of the Court. This time is to be scheduled to minimize the number of weekends used of the other parent's time.

_____ The weeks in the summer (time the child/ren have off from school) will be alternating beginning with the parent's own regularly scheduled weekend.

_____ Other: _____

SPRING BREAK:

Select one:

_____ Alternating with Mother having even numbered years and Father having odd numbered years. The break is defined as:

Select one:

_____ The days between the regularly scheduled weekends maintaining the weekend schedule.

_____ Commencing at 6:00 p.m. the day school is released to 6:00 p.m. the day before school resumes.

_____ Shared with each parent maintaining their regularly schedule weekend and the exchange occurring at 12:00 noon on Wednesday during Spring Break.

_____ Other: _____

CHRISTMAS BREAK:

Select one:

_____ Christmas break will be equally shared between the parents with each receiving one-half of the days off from school while maintaining the regularly scheduled weekends and holidays.

Select one:

_____ Mother will have the first half of the break in even numbered years and the second half in odd numbered year while father will have the first half in odd numbered years and the second half in even numbered years.

_____ Mother will have the first half of the break in odd numbered years and the second half in even numbered years while father will have the first half in even numbered years and the second half in odd numbered years.

_____ Christmas break will be shared with the parent who has Christmas Eve having parenting time from the time school is released for the break to the specified exchange time for the holiday and the other parent having the remaining Christmas break to 6:00 p.m. the day before school resumes.

_____ The parents will alternate the Christmas break from the time school is released to the time the child/ren return to school.

Select one:

_____ Mother will have Christmas break each even numbered year and Father will have Christmas break each odd numbered year.

_____ Father will have Christmas break each even numbered year and Mother will have Christmas break each odd numbered year.

_____ The parents will alternate Christmas break. The parent who has Christmas will initiate the break starting on Christmas day at the established holiday time to January 1 at 6:00 p.m.

_____ Other: _____

TRANSPORTATION:

Select One:

_____ Each parent will provide transportation to initiate their own custody/parenting time.

_____ Mother will provide transportation to initiate Father's custody/parenting time and Father will provide transportation to initiate Mother's custody/parenting time.

_____ Parents will meet at _____ to exchange the child/ren.
(address of location)

_____ Father will provide all transportation for parenting time.

_____ Mother will provide all transportation for parenting time.

_____ Special instructions for transportation: _____

WEEKEND RESET: (If not checked, does not apply)

_____ If the parenting plan is for alternating weekends, at no time will either parent have more than two consecutive weekends without the other parent having the next two consecutive weekends except as a result of extended parenting.

Additional Parenting Time Provisions
