

## Custody Tip #4 – Lower Child Support with this Vacation Approach

Custody Tip #3 was all about school breaks and how to use them to your advantage. But that Tip is pretty well-known. This Tip is all about the Unknown – to be more specific, **Unspecified Vacations**.

Let's start again with a fairly typical custody arrangement. One where the Non-Custodial Parent only has visitation every other weekend. And big support payments, since the child is most often with the Custodial Parent.

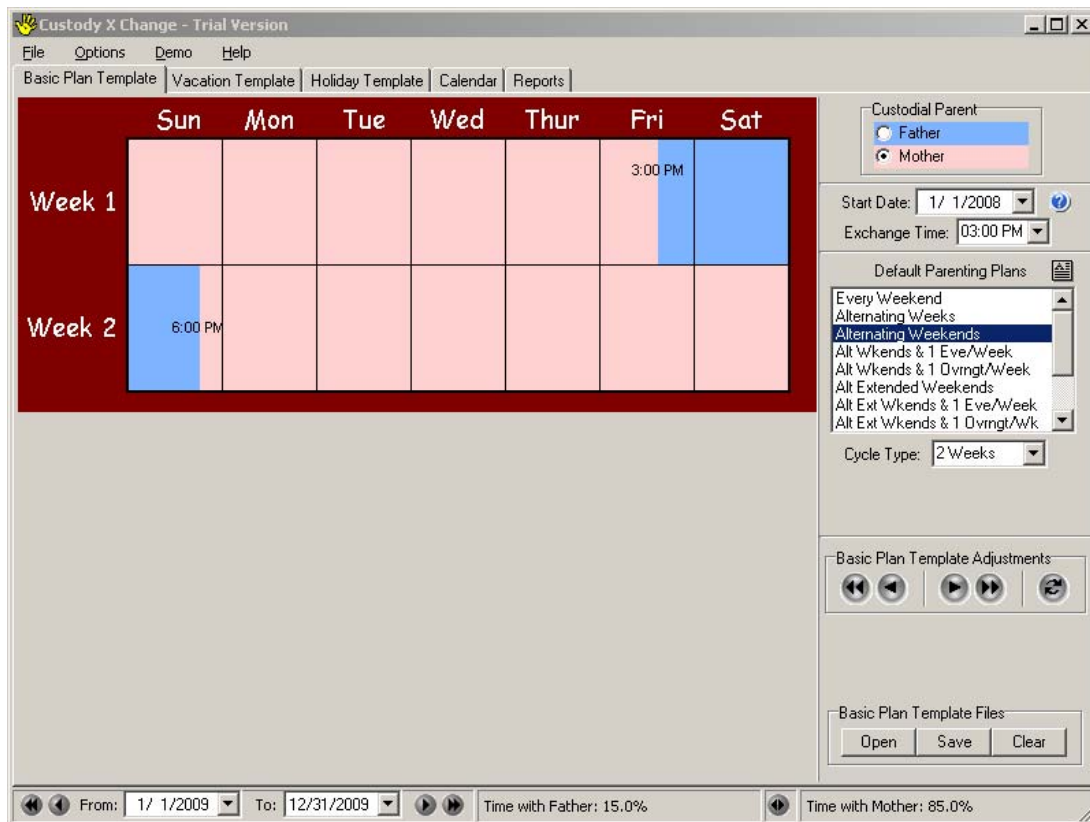


Figure 1: The NCP only has visitation 15% of the time with an alternate-weekend plan.

In this case, the NCP is left with a **measly 15%** of custody time. By negotiating for Unspecified Vacations, however, you or your client can change the numbers.

What are Unspecified Vacations? Well, they're general periods of time set aside in a visitation plan for one parent or the other, without any specific dates attached. A typical order would read: *"Father may take a vacation with the children each year of up to 1 uninterrupted week 2 times per year and must notify Mother of specific dates thirty days prior to vacation."*

Which means that Dad gets two separate weeks a year he can take the kids - whenever he chooses to take those weeks. Attorneys typically use this type of unspecified vacation when parties want the flexibility to go on trips - but not at the same exact days and times each year. Also, it's useful for parents who simply want more vacation options, or are uncertain about plans for summer break.

Okay, so how do you use this for your perfect schedule? With Custody X Change, **it's a breeze.**

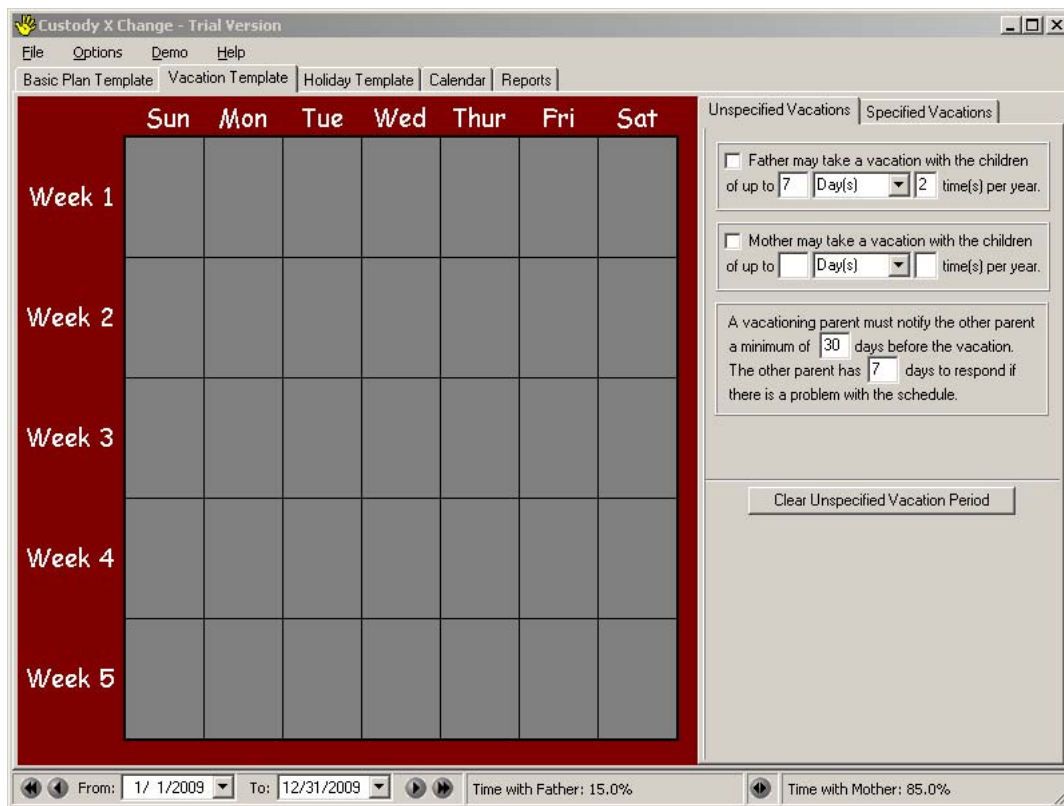
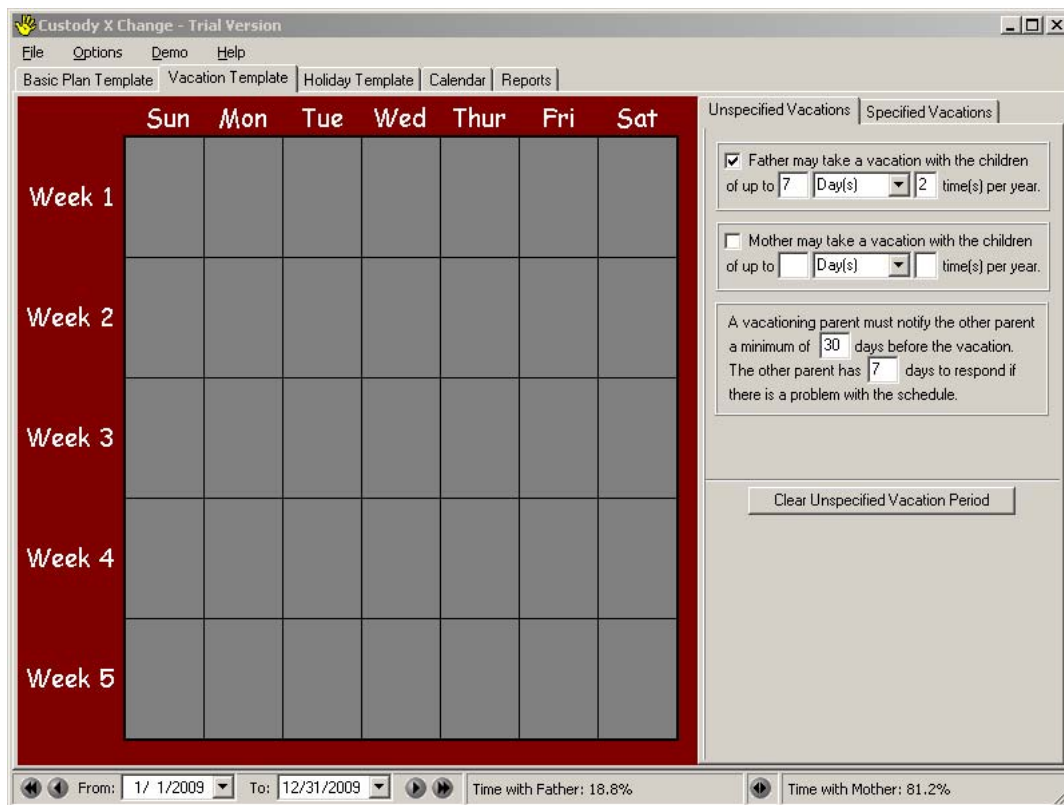


Figure 2: Custody X Change's Unspecified Vacations template.

Using the Custody X Change Unspecified Vacations template, you simply enter the information on Unspecified Vacations for yourself or your client.

But again, that's **just the beginning**.

Custody X then searches through your basic custody arrangement and shows you the optimal time for your Unspecified Vacation that will give you the **best percentage boost**.



*Figure 3: Bam! Custody X Change shows that Unspecified Vacations can boost the NCP's time-share portion up to 18%!*

In Figure 3, we've entered the info from the sample court order regarding Unspecified Vacations. And Custody X Change shows that if you use that time to the max, you'll end up boosting your total time up to **eighteen percent**.

Why is that so important?

Well, usually time-share percentage of custody is a huge factor in determining child support payments. And Custody X Change easily shows you and the court that your time-share is up – so your payments need to go down.

**More time with the kids. Less money to the ex.**

Sounds like **win-win** to us. For NCPs, there's also the obvious fact that you now have a shot at taking the kids on a trip whenever you want during the year – without having to plan a year or two ahead.