

Custody Tip #6 – Make Every Minute Add Up (in Your Bank Account)

Our last Custody Tip taught you how scheduling school time can help make the child support payments fair.

Now we're going to show you how to really micro-manage time to your advantage with **Custody X Change** that **has never been possible before** until this software was created.

Remember in the last Custody Tip, when we asked the question, why does school time automatically get credited to the custodial parent? Well, we're going to ask another question that no one seems to ask – but maybe *you* should.

Why do all child exchange times seem to be on the hour?

5 pm to 8 pm Wednesday night. 3 pm Friday afternoon to 9 pm on Monday morning. 8 am to 5 pm on Father's Day.

You get the point.

But why do all the visitation plans get set up this way? What if your kid has an afterschool activity and you can't pick him or her up until 3:30 instead of 3? What if you get out of work early and can pick up the kids at 5:30 instead of 6?

Or, what if instead having your children 5 pm to 8 pm on Wednesday night, it was 4:30 to 8:30 pm - or even 4:45 to 8:15 pm??

The answer's pretty simple. Visitation plans have always been set up that way because it ***used to be*** the easy way to do things.

Custody X Change changes everything – so you can set visitation times up the way they really are, quickly without a problem, adjusting whatever days you need to adjust.

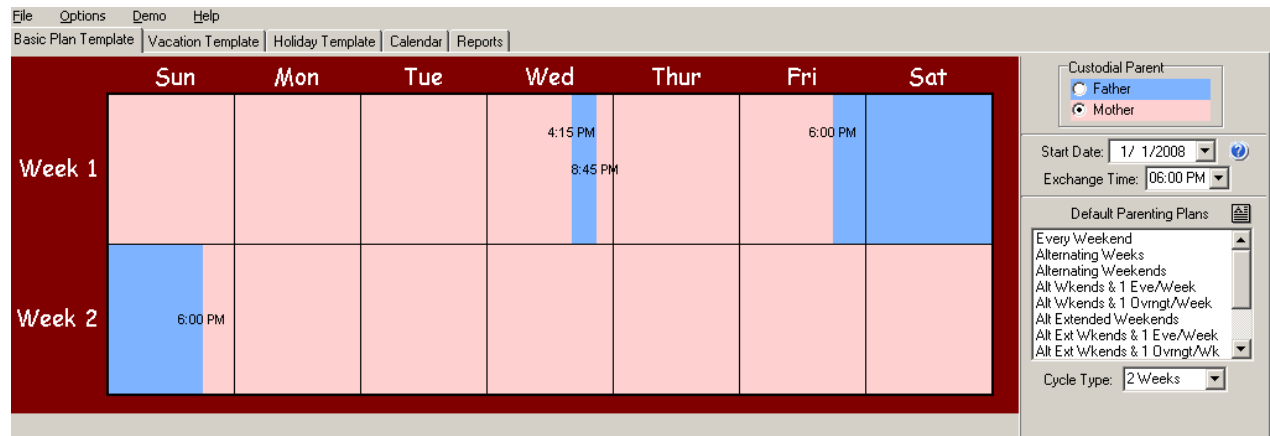


Figure 1: With Custody X Change, you can easily program extra visitation periods and customize the pick-up and drop-off times.

In Figure 1, you can clearly see that, in addition to the alternate weekends the Non-Custodial Parent has in this plan, the NCP can also plot in that Wednesday night, 4:15 to 8:45 pm, time slot, right to the minute. Just click and drag the times to where you want them – and your overall time-share percentage will immediately reflect the change in the lower bar of the program.

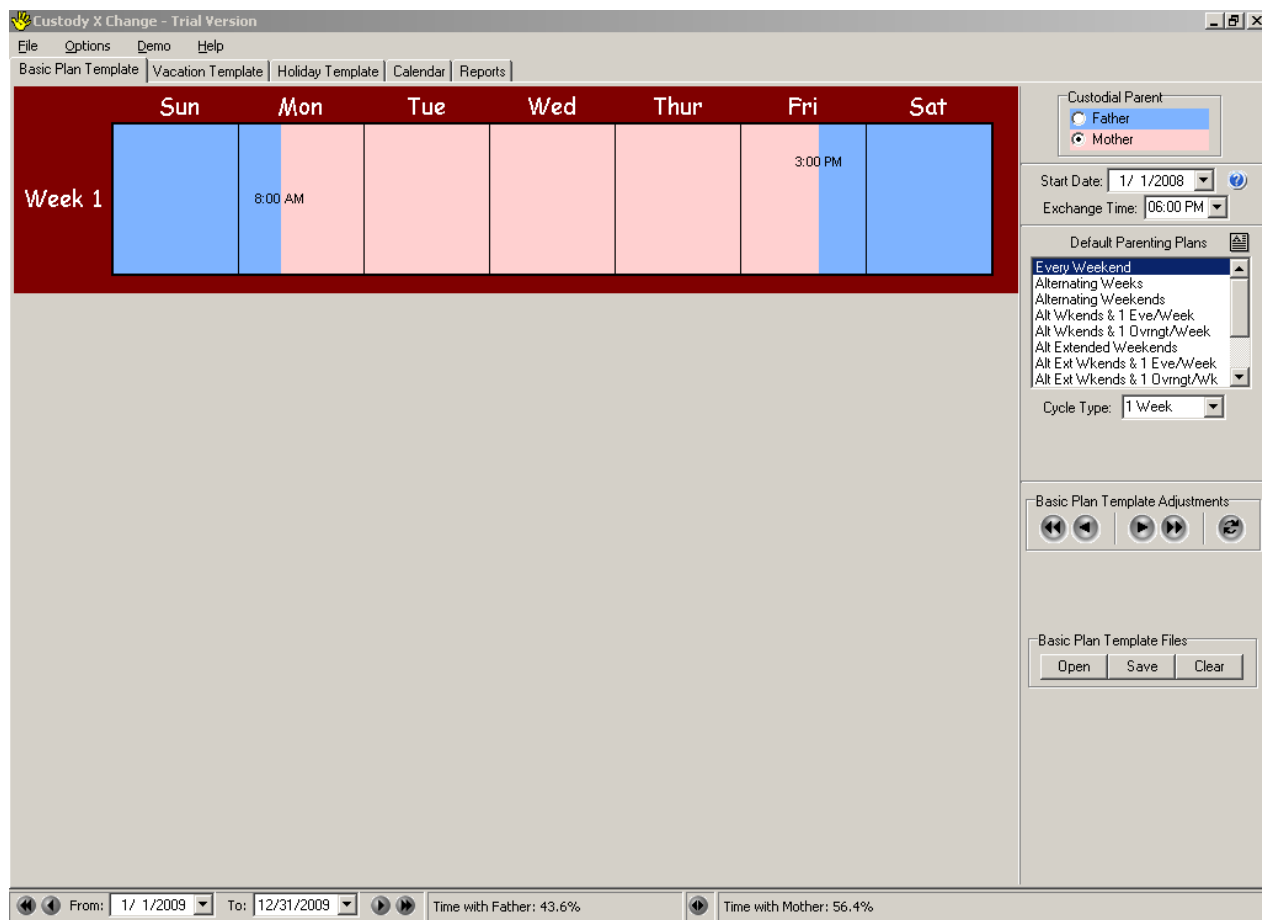


Figure 2: The agreed-upon weekend visitation times.

Let's use a more regular time-shift to show you how you can make a big overall gain, if the circumstances warrant it. Figure 2 shows the Dad picking up his child at school at 3 pm Friday and dropping back off at school at 8 AM Monday morning for his weekend visitation time. That's how it came out in the agreement – and it gives him an overall 43% time-share.

But in reality, Dad gets the kids at 2:45 on Friday. That's when school *really* gets out. And he drops the kids off at 8:30 AM on Monday. That's when school *really* starts. So let's see what this reality check does for his time-share.

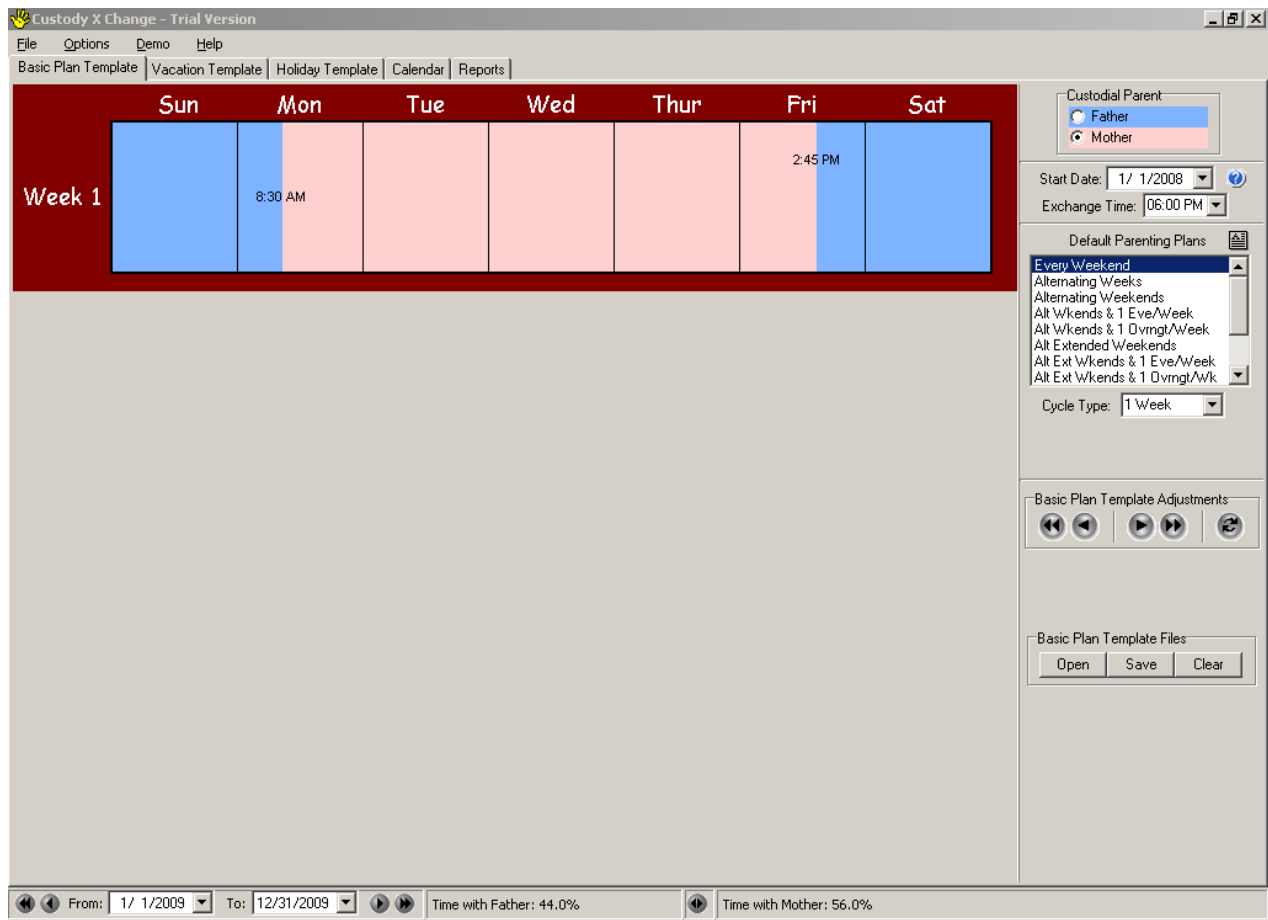


Figure 3: The real deal schedule.

Look at that. Dad's up to 44%.

Now let's say that Dad has also been regularly taking the kids to dinner Wednesday nights. He picks them up at 5:45 – and brings them back at around 8:15. Hey, it's time to start keeping track of that.

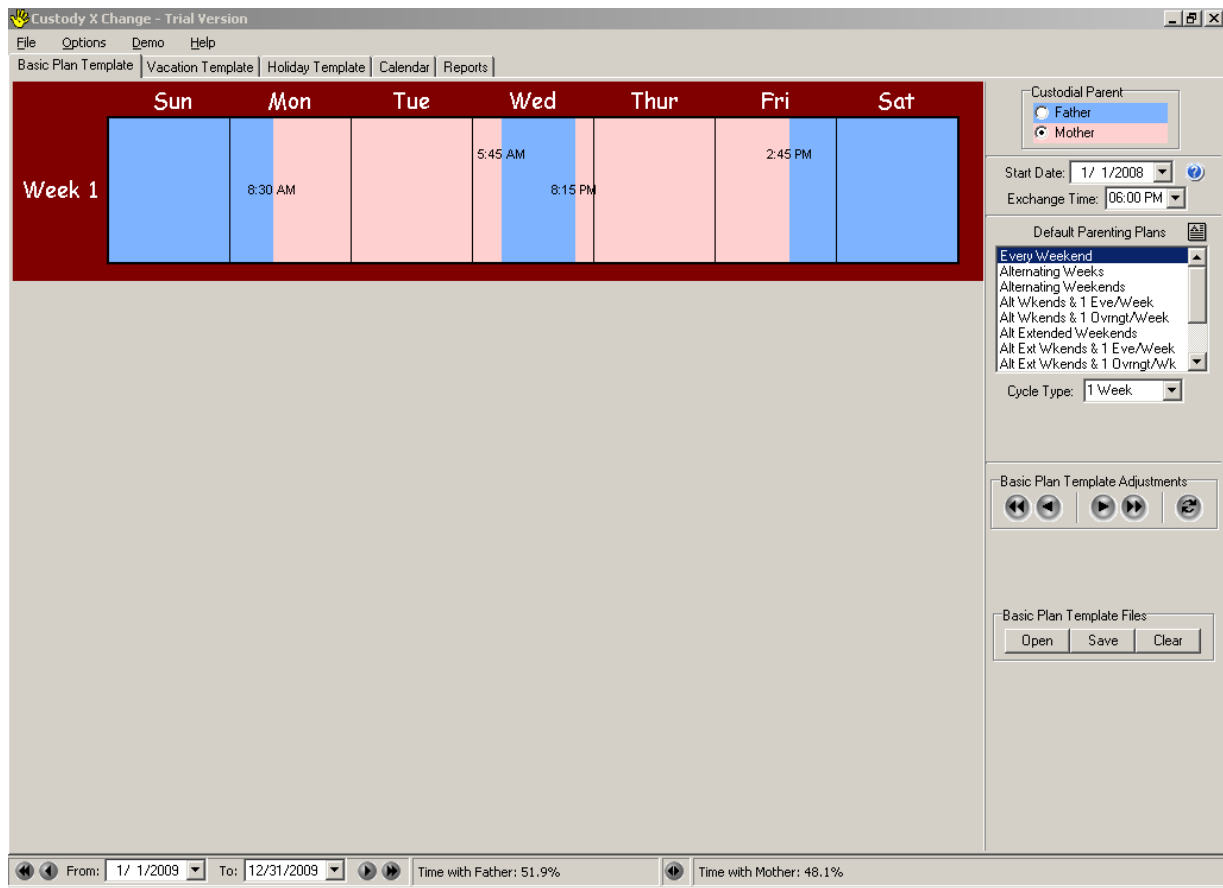


Figure 4: Wednesday night dinner makes the difference!

Well, look at that. Suddenly, Dad's up to over 50% of the time-share time. Would that make a difference in child support?

Definitely.

So, to sum it up:

Don't agree to set exchanges on the hour because it's easy. It's just as easy to set it up with visitation times on the half hour, on the 15's, etc., if that's reality.

And it's **completely easy with Custody X Change**. Click, click, print. Then you have calendars and an attachment to a court order. You can show what you did with the kids and at what times.

Giving you a much more accurate time-share percentage!