

CELL PHONE AGREEMENT

CONGRATS! You've proven yourself mature and responsible enough for your own cell phone. Given that you have a new cell phone in your hands, we obviously trust you to make good decisions—so why are we making you sign this lame thing that's loaded with stuff that you probably already know?

A cell phone is more than a piece of technology. If used wrongly, it can be a weapon that puts your safety at risk. You're a great kid, and we want to make sure that you continue making smart choices.

The goal of this agreement is to make sure that you're always safe and happy—and that we always maintain a direct and open line of communication. We're asking you to always use your phone for good and to ask for help from us or a trusted adult when a situation leaves you feeling scared or unsure.

Please review this contract, and be sure to ask us any questions that you may have.

1. If Mom or Dad call me, I will answer right away, no exceptions. If for some reason I miss their call, I will call them back right away.
2. We will always know your passcode to the iPhone and passwords to any apps, websites, accounts, etc. you have.
3. I will not give out my passwords to anyone (even my best friends) other than my parents.
4. I will share my friends' contact information with my parents at any time.
5. I will not play on my smartphone while at the dinner table, or while eating at restaurants.
6. I will respect a no cell phone rule at any establishment (movies, school, doctor's office).
7. I will not text or use my phone when people are talking to me in person.
8. I will not use my phone at school except to communicate with my parents.
9. I will not text or use my phone while doing homework.
10. I understand that maintaining a grade average at school is required to have access to my phone.
11. Every night at 8 pm, my phone will be handed over to my parents. I will get my phone back at 7:30am the next morning, **after** I'm ready for school.
12. I will not be reminded of my phone curfew.
13. I understand that my parents have the right to set up monitoring software on my phone. I know that this is because they love me and want to protect me. I will not do anything to attempt to remove any monitoring apps or abilities.
14. I will never delete messages, texts, call history, emails, etc. When this needs to be done for phone maintenance, I will do this with my mother.
15. I will respect my own and other people's privacy in pictures and posts that I share.
16. I will only share pictures and videos where everyone is appropriately dressed and will avoid sharing any images that could embarrass me or others or get anyone in trouble.
17. I will treat others respectfully and kindly in what I post, what I text and how I interact socially.
18. I will not respond to any messages that are mean or in any way make me feel uncomfortable. It is not my fault if I get a message like that. If I do I will tell my parents right away.
19. I will respect other people's digital property and space. I won't steal, hack, break into anyone else's accounts or use other's content without permission.
20. I will be thoughtful in my use of copy, paste and forwarding. If I use anyone else's content or images I will quote them, give them credit and link to them if appropriate.
21. My phone is not a tool to tear others down and I will not use it as such. My first priority is to be a good friend, not to instigate gossip and hurtful conversations.

22. I will not text, email, or say anything through this device I would not say in person.
23. I will not text, email, or say anything to someone that I would not say out loud with their parents in the room.
24. If I wouldn't text or say it to my parents, I will not text it to my friends or put it on my social networks. What I do online stays with me forever and I don't want to tarnish my reputation by sharing an inappropriate photo or comment.
25. I won't post or send pictures or other content that will embarrass me, get me into trouble or jeopardize my privacy or security. *Do not send or receive pictures of your private parts or anyone else's private parts. Don't laugh. Someday you will be tempted to do this despite your high intelligence. It is risky and could ruin your teenage/college/adult life. It is always a bad idea. Cyberspace is vast and more powerful than you. And it is hard to make anything of this magnitude disappear — including a bad reputation.*
26. I will access the internet only for things that I would share with my parents. This means no porn or any other inappropriate content.
27. I will only use apps from legitimate app stores (like the Apple App Store or Google Play) and do a little research to make sure they're appropriate and safe to use.
28. I will carefully review the privacy policies of any apps I use including what information the app collects or shares.
29. I will only use apps that share my location with family or personal friends I know from the real world.
30. I will never agree to get together with someone I "meet" online without first checking with my parents. If my parents agree to the meeting, I will be sure that it is in a public place and bring my mother or father along.
31. I will never give any personal information {last name, phone number, user ID, address, name/location of school, parents' information etc.} to anyone on any public format {website, social media, etc.} or to anyone without permission.
32. I will not sign up for or use any social media or messaging apps/websites without permission from my parents (permission will be written and signed on this contract as an addendum).
33. I will not touch or look at my phone when it's dangerous to do so such as driving, riding a bike or walking.
34. If it falls into the toilet, smashes on the ground, or vanishes into thin air, I am responsible for the replacement costs or repairs. *Mow a lawn, babysit, stash some birthday money. It will happen, you should be prepared. You will also tell us immediately when this happens.*
35. If my parents deem that my use of my smartphone is inappropriate, that I have crossed boundaries, or that I have not maintained my end of the bargain, I accept that my parents will remove my privilege of having a smartphone.

Keep your eyes up. See the world happening around you. Stare out a window. Listen to the birds. Take a walk. Talk to a stranger sitting next to you who is equally bored out of their mind. Wonder without googling.

You will mess up. We will take away your phone. We will sit down and talk about it. We will start over again. We are always learning. We are on your team. We are in this together.

Signature

Date