

Paid job, or just being in the family?



Cut out the twenty slips and sort them together. You will disagree on four or five of them, and those are the ones worth talking about.

Just being in the family

Nobody gets paid for this. It is either your own mess, or the bare minimum of living with other people.

A paid job

Work that would otherwise be a grown-up's. Real effort, a visible result, and a price agreed in advance.

CUT OUT AND SORT

Put your plate in the sink

Vacuum the living room

Make your bed

Wash the car

Put your toys away

Mow the lawn

Dirty clothes in the basket

Clean the bathroom

Hang up your coat

Take the bins out

Do your homework

Weed the garden

Brush your teeth

Wash the windows

Get yourself dressed

Sort the recycling

Put your shoes away

Fold everyone's laundry

Say thank you for dinner

Clean out the pet's cage

The test, when you get stuck. It isn't how hard the job is — it's whose job it would be if the child didn't live here. Their own plate, their own room and their own homework were never yours to pay for. The car, the lawn and the family's laundry were. Get this line drawn early and you will never again be asked for money to do something a person simply does.

Child Allowance

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The app only pays for the ones you put on the paid list.

