



4-H Filmmaking

Release Agreements and Permission Slips

Why do I need to get a permission slip or a release agreement?

In your films, you may interview friends, family members, people in your community, or people that you've just met. Even if they already agreed to be in your film, you still must have them fill out and sign a permission (or release) form.

What is a permission slip/release agreement?

The release agreement is a contract between you, the filmmaker, and the person who is going to be filmed. The agreement is a legal contract that allows you to use the person's electronic or mechanical likeness for the purposes intended in your film. By signing the form they have given you their permission to be in your film.

How many releases do I need for my film?

Every person whose direct image or voice recording is in your film needs to sign a release. If you just happen to catch someone walking by on the street in the background of your film you don't need to get their permission. Their image is just incidental. It's easiest to have many copies on hand and then before you start filming just have your talent fill out and sign the form.

How do I go about getting their release?

- Research and make contact via phone, email, or in person all of the people you want to be in your film.
- Discuss with them what your film is about and what you want them to do.
- Make copies of the release form included in these resource pages and fill in your name as "the Producer". If you already have a working title for you film enter that as "the Project".
- Have your talent read the form and then sign, date, and fill in their address and phone number.
- If the person is under 18, a parent must also sign for them.
- Good job! Now get filming!