
(your name)

(your mailing address)

(city) (state) (zip)

(your phone number)

Defendant Pro Se

In the (check **one** box and fill in the blank for the court where you are filing):

Justice Court of _____ **County,**
(county of court where you are filing)

City Court of _____,
(city of court where you are filing)

Municipal Court of _____,
(city of court where you are filing)

_____ **Judicial District Court of** _____ **County,**
(number of district) (county of court where you are filing)

State of Montana

<p>_____, (name of your landlord)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Plaintiff,</p> <p>v.</p> <p>_____, (your name)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Defendant(s).</p>	<p>Cause No.: _____</p> <p>Dept. No.: _____ (filled out by court)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Answer</p>
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I am a Defendant in this case. I answer the Plaintiff's Complaint in the paragraphs below:

1. I admit the following parts of the Complaint (*list the paragraph numbers or write the parts of the Complaint that are true*):

2. I deny the following parts of the Complaint (*list the paragraph numbers or write the parts of the Complaint that are not true*):

3. I deny the following parts of the Complaint because I do not have enough information to admit or deny them (*list the paragraph numbers or write the parts of the Complaint that you are not sure about*):

4. I deny everything I did not admit.

I also have the following defense(s) to the Complaint (*check and fill in the blanks for **any** box that is true*):

- The Plaintiff knew the property was not fit to live in because of the following conditions (*write why the rental was not fit to live in*):

The Plaintiff failed to maintain the property as required by the rental agreement or Section 70-24-303, MCA (Section 70-33-303, MCA for rental of a mobile home lot only).

- The Plaintiff did not provide heat, running water, electricity, gas, or other needed services to the property as required by Section 70-24-303, MCA (Section 70-33-303, MCA for rental of a mobile home lot only).

The Plaintiff did not give me proper notice to move out (*check one box*).

The notice was not in writing as required under Section 70-24-422, MCA (Section 70-33-433, MCA for rental of a mobile home lot only).

OR

The notice did not give me the correct number of days to move out as required under the rental agreement or under Section 70-24-422, MCA (Section 70-33-433, MCA for rental of a mobile home lot only).

The Plaintiff filed the Complaint to get back at me for complaining about health and safety problems to an agency that enforces housing or building codes. I complained about (*describe the problem you complained about*):

I complained about the problem to (*write the name of the agency you told about the problem*): _____.

I complained about the problem to the agency on (*give the date you complained to the agency about the problem*): _____.

Section 70-24-431, MCA (Section 70-33-431, MCA for rental of a mobile home lot only) keeps a landlord from retaliating over my complaint by evicting me.

The Plaintiff filed the Complaint to get back at me for complaining to the Plaintiff about not maintaining the rental property. I complained about (*describe the problem you complained about*):

I complained about the problem to the landlord on *(give the date you complained to the landlord about the problem)*: _____.

Section 70-24-431, MCA (Section 70-33-431, MCA for rental of a mobile home lot only) keeps a landlord from retaliating over my complaint by evicting me.

The Plaintiff stopped needed services to the rental property on purpose to get me to move out. Under Section 70-24-408, MCA (Section 70-33-406 for rental of a mobile home lot only), this action is illegal. The services that the Plaintiff stopped are *(describe the services your landlord kept from your rental)*:

I have paid all of my rent, and do not currently owe Plaintiff anything.

The Plaintiff filed the Complaint before the deadline that the Plaintiff gave me to move out in the notice of termination or notice to vacate. Section 70-24-427(1), MCA (Section 70-33-427(1), MCA for rental of a mobile home lot only) requires that the tenancy be terminated before the Complaint is filed.

Other *(any other legal reason that the court should not evict you)*:

Request for Relief

I respectfully ask the Court:

1. That the Plaintiff take nothing by the Complaint; and

2. For any other relief that is proper, including awarding court costs to me, if I paid any court costs.

Date: _____
(*mm/dd/yyyy*)

Signature: _____
(*sign your name*)

Printed Name: _____
(*print your name*)

Proof of Service

(to be filled out and signed in front of a notary)

STATE OF MONTANA

:SS

County of _____
(county where you sign this)

I sent a full and complete copy of my Answer to the Plaintiff by first class mail, postage prepaid on _____.
(date you mailed the Answer to your landlord)

I mailed the copy of my Answer to the Plaintiff at this address:

Name: _____
(name of person you mailed your Answer to)

Address: _____
(full address you mailed your Answer to)

Signature: _____
(sign your name)

Printed Name: _____
(print your name)

SIGNED AND SWORN to before me by _____ this _____ day of _____, 20____.

(SEAL)

Name *(printed)*: _____
Notary Public for the State of Montana.
Residing at _____
My Commission Expires _____