

# Different Shoes // Details

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## Information sheet for Different Shoes Applicants and their parents

### **What is Different Shoes?**

Different Shoes is a 24-hour event where we'll choose to spend a few days the way a billion people who live in the world slums spend their lifetimes. We build and live in our own slum houses (built out of basic discarded materials) for a 24-hour. We will eat simple food. We will face restrictions in what clothing and personal items we can bring. We will compete in challenges that simulate aspects of slum life. We will also get sponsored and raise money for work in poor communities around the world. We will also spend time in worship and prayer, reflecting on how we can respond to God's heart for justice.

### **The rules**

Here are the foundational rules you will have to live by:

**Rule 1:** You can only sleep in the slum house you've built or snooze outside.

**Rule 2:** You'll be able to eat two tasty meals a day - of rice and dhal. During Different Shoes you can't eat any other food, unless you win it as a prize in one of the challenges.

**Rule 3:** All the water you need for drinking, cooking and washing can only be collected from one tap. You'll be allowed to wash in a private shower space, but you can't use running water from the shower - its bucket baths only for Slum Dwellers!

**Rule 4:** If anyone visits your slum house, you must offer hospitality in the form of food and drink (the guest may refuse to eat, but you can't tell them that, and a drink must be provided for them anyway). Your slum house must also be clean at all times, you may be subject to limitations on luxuries and food if it is not.

**Rule 5:** You must be present at the slum on time to participate in each challenge. You may not leave the slum during Different Shoes unless required to participate in a challenge, or in an emergency.

**Rule 6:** You'll be limited in the items you can bring into your slum house. Here's what you can bring:

One complete set of clothes including shoes, socks, shorts or jeans/trousers, t-shirt or shirt, jumper, coat, hat/cap and as many pairs of undies as you want.

One set of cutlery and crockery, a cup, bowl or plate, fork and spoon, toothbrush and toothpaste, a bar of soap, towel, sleeping bag, sunscreen and sunglasses (if you're doing this in summer), feminine hygiene as required, prescription medication as required, a Bible, a notepad and a pen.

You can't bring anything else! Including no other toiletries, makeup, hairbrushes, combs or deodorant. No pillows, blankets, pyjamas or teddy-bears. No mobile phones, MP3 players, iPads & iPods, laptops, or TVs. No books, newspapers, or magazines, or anything else in the world at all!

The responsible adults are permitted to have phones for emergency purposes

**Rule 7:** If anyone breaks any of these rules then their family will be subject to further limitations on food or other privileges. (or slum money if being collected, this is further explained in the challenges)

**The point of Different Shoes**

The essential point is that we'd raise money for projects and people working in poor communities around the world. All the money raised will go to the work of Soul Action.

**Where does Different Shoes come from?**

Soul Action (a joint initiative between Tearfund and Soul Survivor) are promoting Different Shoes as a way that churches can raise money for and awareness of work in poor communities around the world. It is hoped churches across the country will take part in the Different Shoes 24-hour. Different Shoes is also a part of the Soul Survivor summer events. For more info see [www.soulaction.org](http://www.soulaction.org).

## Application form (including parental permission)

Use this as a template to make your own form. In fact, you probably have one already, but just in case you don't...

### Sign me up now...

I want to spend day living in Different Shoes to raise money for work in poor communities across the world.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any allergies or medical conditions that may cause problems or require attention while on Different Shoes? (NB you will have a limited diet of rice and beans for a few days).

Please tick:

I've read and understand the rules of Different Shoes.

I agree to abide by the rules and follow all reasonable instructions given by the Different Shoes co-ordinators.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To be completed by the parent/guardian of anyone under 18

I have read and understand the rules of Different Shoes and agree to my son/daughter participating in the event.

Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Example letter to site owners

For some sites you may wish to use, you will need to ask permission from the land owners. Following is a rough letter that you can customise as you see fit.

To Whom It May Concern,

We are seeking permission to make use of the property located at [address] to run a simulation event called Different Shoes from [date and time] until [date and time].

Different Shoes is a simulation event designed by Soul Action, a joint initiative by the charities Tearfund and Soul Survivor. All money raised through Different Shoes will be donated to projects that Soul Action supports in poor communities in South Africa, Zimbabwe and around the world.

Different Shoes aims to raise awareness about urban poverty and to provide ways for people to contribute to practical solutions to the plight of the world's poor. Participants will build and live in their own "slum houses" and participate in a series of challenges over the duration of the Different Shoes event.

Over three billion people on the planet live in situations of extreme poverty. We hope that by raising awareness of this situation among the young people who participate in Different Shoes and the wider public, we can help create a world where people are set free from poverty and able to pursue lives of dignity and hope.

We look forward to hearing from you regarding permission to use [name and address of site].

I can be contacted on [your details].

Yours sincerely,

## Feedback form

### **So, how did it go?**

We'd love to know what stuff worked, and what wasn't so successful so we can help people put on a really effective event for their young people. If you have any thoughts, comments or suggestions we would love it if you could send them back to us at the address below or email in your comments to [info@soulaction.org](mailto:info@soulaction.org)

**Name:**

**Church:**

**Email:**

**Contact phone number:**

**Position in church:**

**Involvement in Different Shoes:**

**When was your event?:**

**Tell us how it went, what worked and what didn't work so well:**

**Any new challenges that worked well?**

**Was this guide helpful?**

Remember to go to [www.soulaction.org](http://www.soulaction.org) and sign up your event with details of what went on.

Soul Action  
Unit 16 Paramount Industrial Estate  
Sandown Road  
Watford  
WD24 7XA

## Health and Safety

The necessary pain of health and safety is obvious to all, so please do have a read of this and think through carefully what potential problems you'll need to mitigate against.

Different Shoes is a simulation of real life, so of course there will be things that may well go wrong. However, as the organiser, it is your duty to ensure that everything is done, so far as is reasonably practicable, to make the event as safe as it possibly can be.

This means that you need to thoroughly think through the potential consequences of doing Different Shoes and ensuring that it is as safe as you can make it.

Having said that, there is inevitably the potential of young people (and older!) being in a situation where they are not 100% safe – this needs to be communicated to them when they sign up to do Different Shoes; they are undertaking the 24-hours at their own risk, but in the knowledge that the leaders will endeavour to make it as safe as possible.

What we don't want to do, though, is make the challenge too easy; whilst this is only a simulation, we want it to be one which does reflect the realities of life which people all over the world experience. This means that it will get hard. Your group will be tired, hungry and complacent – it is at these times that you need to be more ready for anything to go wrong.

Key areas to consider and plan for:

1. Risk assessments
2. Child protection issues
3. Illness & dehydration
4. Contingency planning for bad weather
5. Each challenge as a separate risk
6. First aid requirements
7. Local people and the local area

## Example Risk Assessment

The following is obviously not comprehensive, but gives an idea of some of the things that you'll need to think through when conducting your risk assessment.

P = Probability of event happening (Factor 1 – 4) // S = Severity if event occurs (Factor 1 – 5)

L = Level of risk (1 – 20) // New Risk = Risk after precautions have been completed

Low Risk = 1 -3 Medium Risk = 4-9 (common, dealt with during task)

High Risk = 10 – 19 (action before commencing work) Vital = 20 (action immediately)

### Location:

HAZARD Potential for harm	Risk			PRECAUTIONS Remove hazard & reduce risk	New Risk		
	P	x	S = L		P	x	S = L
Slum Collapsing							
Fire hazard							
Trip hazard							
Slip hazard							
Items falling from height							
Injury during challenges							
Dehydration							
Claustrophobia							

Assessed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

## Raising money and awareness through Different Shoes

The hope is that as well as changing the attitudes and perceptions of those involved, Different Shoes would also be used as a fund-raiser for the work Soul Action supports in poor communities in South Africa, Ghana and elsewhere around the globe. As your group learns about the experiences of the 3 billion who live in poverty in our world they can also be actively doing something to bring about positive change. You can see a few examples of the types of projects that Soul Action works with at [www.soulaction.org](http://www.soulaction.org).

### **Sponsorship Tips**

Encourage your group to collect money from sponsors at the time of the pledge if possible as this saves time chasing up the people after the event. Together as a group, set a realistic but ambitious amount to aim for in your fundraising efforts.

Make sure that each person who takes a form returns the form and any money raised. Collect all forms issued, even from people who haven't raised any money.

### **Sending funds raised to Soul Action**

When all money and forms are collected, add up the total funds raised and record the amount in a letter outlining what you did and the total raised. Send this letter with a cheque or money order for the total funds raised to:

Soul Action/Different Shoes  
Unit 2 Paramount Industrial Estate, Sandown Road, Watford, WD24 7XF.

### **Givey**

An easy way to collect your sponsorship is through [www.givey.com/soulaction](http://www.givey.com/soulaction). Soul Action is set up as an organisation that you can give to through Givey and it makes collecting money really easy.

You'll be able to create your own page (for free), list loads of stuff about yourself and the Different Shoes 24-hour you're planning and then email all the details around to your friends. They'll be able to go on your created page and sponsor you online. The money is automatically collected and sent to Soul Action once you've finished your challenge...

The best bit is that 100% of the money raised is given direct to Soul Action! WHOOP!