

Short notice for cancellation causes loss

DEAR ABBY: I am a bed-and-breakfast owner. I have a strict two-week cancellation policy for reservations. I have just had a terrible experience with a guest who canceled five days before he was scheduled to arrive. Abby, I have only four guest rooms. When someone cancels on short notice, I am unable to resell the room in time, and I'm out one-quarter of my revenue for that night.



abigail van buren

• dear abby

This particular guest had reserved a room for two nights. I told him he was responsible and tried to run the credit card he held the reservation with. It didn't work. (Big surprise!) I am not out to make people's lives difficult, but if they don't want a reservation at an independent B&B, they shouldn't make one. Please spread the word about how this affects small-business people like me

and many others. — STIFFED IN ST. PAUL
DEAR STIFFED: I'll spread the word as requested, but perhaps you should count your blessings. If the card was no good, how would you have felt after feeding and lodging this boor for two days? In the future, you'd be wise to verify the credit-card number as soon as a reservation is made. It will save you a lot of grief.
DEAR ABBY: I am legally blind and wear sunglasses all the time. I completely understand children asking me why I'm wearing sunglasses, but I feel adults should know better. When a woman walks into a store with sunglasses and a white-tipped cane, isn't that obvious enough? But

SATURDAY EVENING											MAY 14, 2005										
E S		6 pm		6:30		7 pm		7:30		8 pm		8:30		9 pm		9:30		10 pm		10:30	
36	53	A&E	City Confidential			Cold Case Files	A woman convinces police to investigate her sisters' murders.			American Justice	"A Parent's Nightmare"			City Confidential							
4	6	ABC	(15) NBA Basketball Eastern Conference Semifinal Game 4 -- Miami Heat at Washington Wizards. From MCI Center in Washington, D.C. (Live)							News	(.35) Sein-feld			(.05) Entertainment Tonight							
26	48	ANPL	Genesis Awards 2005 Contributions to the advancement of animal-welfare issues. (N)			Wild Kingdom	Alaskan grizzly bears.			Genesis Awards 2005	Contributions to the advancement of animal-welfare issues.										
63	54	BRAVO	*** "Backdraft" (1991, Drama) Kurt Russell, William Baldwin. Chicago firefighters work overtime to stop a mad arsonist. 'R'							*** "Backdraft"	(1991, Drama) Kurt Russell, William Baldwin.										
7	11	CBS	Cold Case "Mind Hunters" (N)			CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	(N) (DVS)			48 Hours Mystery	"Mind for Murder" (N)			News		Drew Carey		(.05) Paid Program		(.35) Paid Program	
24	50	DISC	American Hot Rod "63 Chevy Sting Ray" (N)			American Hot Rod	"63 Chevy Sting Ray" (N)			American Chopper	"Lincoln Mark LT Bike 2"			Alien Planet	Searching the galaxy for life. (N)						
33	44	DISN	American Drgn			Kim Possible				Lizzie McGuire				Phil of the Future		Zack & Cody		That's So Raven			
49	81	EITV	Jennifer Lopez: The E!			True Hollywood Story				Saturday Night Live				Dr. 90210		Howard S.		Howard S.			
22	56	ESPN	Gridiron Stars			Gridiron Stars				Baseball Tonight				SportsCenter	(Live)	Fastbreak		Baseball			
54	57	ESPN2	NHRA Drag Racing			MISL Soccer: Championship Final				Streetball	Streetball			Baseball		Outside		Outside			
32	46	FAM	*** "She Gets What She Wants" (2002)			Who's? Who's?				Who's? Who's?				Videos		Videos		Videos			
59	-	FIT TV	Ultimate Goals			No Opportunity Wasted				Peak Performance				Ultimate Goals		No Opportunity Wasted					
35	31	FMC	*** "The Day the Earth Stood Still" (1951)			*** "Predator" (1987)				Carl Weathers				"Jumplin'-Bnyrd"							
53	68	FOOD	Emeril Live Hot and sour chili sauce. (N)			Good Eats: Down & Out in Paradise				Beach Eats Feast of sunny delights.				Iron Chef "Battle Clam" Clam competition.		Emeril Live	Hot and sour chili sauce.				
13	7	FOX	Cops (N)			Cops (PA)				America's Most Wanted-Fights Back				She Spies "London Calling"		Mad TV (N)		LAPD: Life on the Beat		LAPD: Life on the Beat	
40	38	FX	NASCAR Racing Nextel Cup Series -- Chevy American Revolution 400. (Live)			NASCAR Drivers 360				Cops				Cops		Tracy Uil-man					
30	55	HBO	MLB Baseball Arizona Diamondbacks at Colorado Rockies. (Live)			Rocky Mt. Rockies				Track				FSN Amer							
5	14	HBO	"Starsky & Hutch" (N)			(.45) ** "A Cinderella Story" (2004, Romance-Comedy) Hilary Duff. (N) 'PG'				Classical Baby (N)				*** "Shrek 2" (2004) Mike Myers. Premiere. (N) 'PG'							
62	67	HGTV	Design Decorating			Designer reDesign				Design				Trading Up		Design		Decorating			
58	52	HIST	**** "Dances With Wolves" (1990, Western) Kevin Costner, Mary McDonnell. A U.S. Cavalry officer's vision of the American frontier. (N)			**** "Dances With Wolves" (1990) Kevin Costner, Mary McDonnell. A U.S. Cavalry officer's vision of the American frontier. (N)															
25	35	IND	*** "Twister" (1996) Helen Hunt. Storm chasers race to test a new tornado-monitoring device.			MLB Baseball Atlanta Braves at Los Angeles Dodgers. From Dodger Stadium															
18	63	LIFE	"Ultimate Deception"			"Widow on the Hill" (2005) Natasha Henstridge.				Strong Medicine				"Crossing Delancey"							
23	77	MTV	MTV Cribs			MTV Cribs				Challenge				Challenge							
3	9	NBC	Entertainment Tonight (N) (N)			Crossing Jordan "Justice Delayed" (N)				Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Pure" (N)				Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Pure" (N)							
8	8	NBC	Crossing Jordan "Justice Delayed" (N)			Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Pure" (N)				Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Pure" (N)				Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Pure" (N)							
34	43	NICK	School			Drake				All That (N) [Amanda]				Fresh Pr.		Cosby		Roseanne		Roseanne	
2	2	PBS	Keeping Up			As Time Goes By				The Lawrence Welk Show "New York Show"				Red Green		Austin City Limits		Connie Dover and Roger Landes		Baxter Black	
38	83	SCIFI	"The Bone Snatcher"			"The Fallen Ones" (2005)				Casper Van Dien. (N)				*** "Army of Darkness" (1992) (N)							
61	41	SPK	(5:00) "Deuces Wild"			MXC (N)				MXC (N)				Most Amazing Videos		Carpoolcypse (N)		Boom! (N)		MXC (N)	
39	51	TLC	In a Fix "Two, Four, Five" A wife moves out.			While You Were Out				What Not to Wear Elyn lost 120 pounds. (N)				Trading Spaces "Phoenix: Fye Road" (N)							
28	37	TNT	(5:00) *** "Blade"			***: "Blade II" (2002, Action)				Wesley Snipes.				*** "Shaft" (2000) Samuel L. Jackson.							
51	86	TRAV	World Poker Tour			World Poker Tour				Kings of the Road				World Poker Tour							
21	82	TVLND	Highway to Heaven			Top 10				Sanford				All-Family							
60	89	UNIV	Sabado Gigante							Impacto				Noticiero							
20	34	USA	Law & Order: SVU			Law & Order: SVU				The 4400				Law Order: CI							
12	3	WB	Everybody-Raymond			Everybody-Raymond				Everybody-Raymond				Everybody-Raymond							
99	36	WGN	MLB Baseball: Orioles at White Sox							WGN News at Nine				Becker		*** "Field of Dreams" (1989)					

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MONDAY EVENING										E-Eagle Cable S-S&T Telephone										MAY 16, 2005			
E	S		6 pm	6:30	7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30											
36	53	A&E	Airline (N)	Airline	Growing Up Gotti	Growing Up Gotti	Growing Up Gotti	Growing Up Gotti	Crossing Jordan "Born to Run" (N)		Airline	Airline											
4	6	ABC	The Bachelor (N) (N)		The Bachelor "Final Rose Live" (Season Finale) The women learn Charlie's decision. (Live) (N)				News	(.35) Night-line	(.06) Jimmy Kimmel Live												
26	48	ANPL	Who Gets the Dog? "Bustia"		That's My Baby A Jersey cow gives birth.		Animal Cops Houston "Skin and Bones"		Who Gets the Dog? "Bustia"		That's My Baby A Jersey cow gives birth.												
63	54	BRAVO	The West Wing "In Excelsis Deo" (N)		The West Wing "Lord John Marbury" (N)		The West Wing (N)		The West Wing "Take Out the Trash Day" (N)		The West Wing "Take Out the Trash Day" (N)												
7	11	CBS	Everybody Loves Raymond "The Last Laugh"		Everybody-Raymond	Two and a Half Men	CSI: Miami "Whacked" (iTV) (N) (N)		News (N)	(.35) Late Show With David Letterman (N)	Late Late Show												
24	50	DISC	Power Tool Drag Racing		Monster Garage Rolls Royce.		American Chopper "Biketober"		Science of Star Wars Artificial intelligence. (N)		Monster Garage "Folsom Prison Build" (N)												
33	44	DISN	Braceface	Kim Possible	Lizzie McGuire	Sister, Sister (N)	That's So Raven	That's So Raven	*** "The Emperor's New Groove" (2000, Comedy) 'G' (N)		American Drgn												
49	81	EITV	Jenna Jameson: The E!		True Hollywood Story (N)		Dr. 90210		Howard S.	Howard S.	Saturday Night Live (N)												
22	56	ESPN	(5:00) MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced.				Baseball Tonight		SportsCenter (Live) (N)		Fastbreak	Baseball											
54	57	ESPN2	Blame	Blame	Who's Number 1? (N)		SportsCenter		I'd Do Anything (N) (N)		Schwab	Schwab											
32	46	FAM	Who's? Who's?		Who's? Who's?		Who's? Who's?		The 700 Club (N)		Videos	Videos											
59	-	FIT TV	FitTV's Housecalls		Guru2Go		Extremists	Extremists	FitTV's Housecalls		Guru2Go (N)												
35	31	FMC	**** "All About Eve" (1950) Bette Davis, Anne Baxter.				*** "The Driver" (1978, Drama)				"The Longest Day"												
53	68	FOOD	Emeril Live "Emeril's Grilling Contest" (N)		BBQ Unwrapped Barbecue secrets. (N)		The Secret Life Of...	The Secret Life Of...	The Making of Iron Chef America		Emeril Live "Emeril's Grilling Contest"												
13	7	FOX	Nanny 911 "Dickson Family" (N)		24 "Day 4: 4:00AM-5:00AM" (N) (N)		The Fox Report With Shepard Smith		Bob Newhart	Bob Newhart	Mary Tyler Moore	Mary Tyler Moore											
40	38	FX	Darkness	Fear Factor (N) (N)		King of Hill	King of Hill	*** "Bad Company" (2002) Anthony Hopkins, Chris Rock.															
30	55	FXSP	Sports List	Rockies	FSN Amer	Poker Superstars	Best Damn Sports Show	Rockies	Sports List	Best-Sports													
5	14	HBO	(5:45) *** "Chairman of the Board" (1998) Carrot Top. (N) 'PG-13'		*** "Career Opportunities" (1991) Frank Whaley. (N) 'PG-13'		Sex and the City (N)	Sex and the City (N)	*** "Shrek 2" (2004) (N) 'PG'														
62	67	HGTV	Homes	Landscape	Renovation	Designed	Debbie Travis Facelift		Design	House	Homes	Landscape											
58	52	HIST	UFO Files Ancient texts refer to extraterrestrials.		Digging for the Truth The Egyptian Pyramids.		Deep Sea Detectives "Winter of Disaster I"		The Wrath of God "Blizzards: Whiteout!"		UFO Files Ancient texts refer to extraterrestrials.												
25	35	IND	Friends (N) (N)	Friends (N) (N)	Friends (N) (N)	Friends (N) (N)	MLB Baseball Atlanta Braves at San Diego Padres. From PETCO Park in San Diego. (Live) (N)																
18	63	LIFE	(5:00) "Water's Edge"		"A Killer Upstairs" (2005) Tracy Nelson. Premiere.		Princess	How Clean	The Nanny	The Nanny													
23	77	MTV	TRL (iTV) (N)		MTV Cribs	MTV Cribs	MTV Cribs	MTV Cribs	Challenge	Challenge	Challenge	Challenge											
3	9	NBC	News	Ent. Tonight	"Hercules" (2005, Adventure) Paul Telfer, Sean Astin. Premiere. The mythical strongman must perform 12 heroic labors.				News	(.35) The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (N)	Late Night												
8	8	NBC	"Hercules" (2005, Adventure) Paul Telfer, Sean Astin. Premiere. The mythical strongman must perform 12 heroic labors.																				
34	43	NICK	SpongeBob	Drake	Full House	Full House	Fresh Pr.	Cosby	Roseanne	Roseanne	Fresh Pr.	Fresh Pr.											
2	2	PBS	Antiques Roadshow "Roadshow Favorites"		American Experience: Quiz Scandal		Time of Fear (N) (N) (DVS)		BBQ World News	May to December	Charlie Rose (N) (N) (N)												
38	83	SCIFI	Stargate SG-1 (N) (N)		Stargate SG-1 (N) (N)		Stargate SG-1 (N) (N)		*** "Fire in the Sky" (1993) D.B. Sweeney.														
61	41	SPK	Maximum Exposure (N)		Wildest Police Videos		CSI: Crime Scn		CSI: Crime Scn		WWE Raw (N) (N)												
39	51	TLC	While You Were Out (N)		Clean Sweep "The Clutter Brothers" (N)		In a Fix Harvey tries home improvement. (N)		Trauma: Life in the ER "A Fist Full of Trauma"		Untold Stories of the E.R. "Red Blanket"												
28	37	TNT	NBA Basketball: East Semifinal -- Wizards at Heat						NBA Basketball	Playoffs -- Teams TBA. (Live) (N)													
51	86	TRAV	National Parks		Orient Express		Home	Home	National Parks		Orient Express												
21	82	TVLND	Highway to Heaven (N)		Raymond	Leave	Sanford	All-Family	3's Co.	3's Co.	Cheers (N)	Cheers (N)											
60	89	UNIV	Apuesta por un Amor		La Madrastra		Cristina		Impacto	Noticiero	La Hora Derbez												
20	34	USA	Law & Order: SVU		*** "About a Boy" (2002) Hugh Grant. (N)				Law & Order: SVU		Monk (N)												
12	3	WB	Friends (N)	Everybody-Raymond	7th Heaven "Mi Familia" (N) (N) (Part 1 of 2) (N)		Everwood "Good to Go" (N) (N)		News (N) (N)		Friends (N)	Will & Grace (N)											
99	36	WGN	*** "Kojak: Fatal Flaw" (1989) Telly Savalas.				WGN News at Nine		Becker	Becker	Home Delivery												

SUNDAY EVENING										E-Equal Cable S=S&T Telephone										MAY 15, 2005														
E	S	6 pm			6:30			7 pm			7:30			8 pm			8:30			9 pm			9:30			10 pm			10:30					
36	53	A&E			The First 48 A serial killer calls 911. [E]						Family Plots [E]			Family Plots [E]			Intervention Gambling: crystal meth. [E]						CSI: Miami "Big Brother" [E]			The First 48 A serial killer calls 911. [E]								
4	6	ABC			Extreme Makeover: Home Edition (N) [E]						Desperate Housewives "Goodbye for Now" (N)						(:02) Grey's Anatomy "Save Me" (N) [E]						News [E]			(:35) Seinfeld [E]			Lawyer on the Line			Diamond Adventures		
26	48	ANPL			The 50 Greatest TV Animals Real and animated animals. [E]												Animal X "Bigfoot" Big-foot in Texas.						The 50 Greatest TV Animals Real and animated animals. [E]											
63	54	BRAVO			(5:00) Inside the Actors Studio Tom Cruise. [E]						Celebrity Poker Showdown Winners from the previous games compete. [E]												Showdog Moms & Dads [E]						Project Greenlight [E]					
7	11	CBS			Survivor: Palau (ITV Season Finale) The winner is revealed. (N) [E]												Survivor: Palau The 20 castaways reunite. [E]						News [E]			(:35) News			(:05) The Twilight Zone "Another Life; Rewind"					
24	50	DISC			Who Killed King Tut?: Case Reopened Trying to determine what caused the boy king's death. [E]												American Chopper Golfer Davis Love III.						Return to Flight Space shuttle Columbia tragedy. (N)											
33	44	DISN			American Drgn			Kim Possible			Lizzie McGuire			Phil of the Future [E]			Zack & Cody			That's So Raven [E]			"Stuck in the Suburbs" (2004) Danielle Panabaker. 'NR' [E]						(:35) That's So Raven					
49	81	E!TV			Dolly Parton: True Story						Oprah Winfrey						Dr. 90210						Dolly Parton: True Story						Katie Couric: Story					
22	56	ESPN			MLB Baseball San Francisco Giants at Houston Astros. (Live) [E]												SportsCenter (Live) [E]						Baseball											
54	57	ESPN2			NHLRA Drag Racing: Summit Southern Nationals												SportsCenter						Poker: 2004						Poker: 2004					
32	46	FAM			★★★ "Superman" (1978) Christopher Reeve, Margot Kidder. (N)																		Las Vegas			Las Vegas			J. Osteen			Feed		
59	-	FIT TV			Low Carb			Low Carb			FitTV's Housecalls [E]			Star Fitness			Low Carb			Low Carb			FitTV's Housecalls [E]											
35	31	FMC			★★★ "Yellow Sky" (1948) Gregory Peck.												★★★ "Bigger Than Life" (1956) James Mason.						★★★ "The Fly II"											
53	68	FOOD			The Great Steak Cook-Off						Grill-Gantua Building the ultimate grill for a barbecue contest. (N)									Unwrapped			Unwrapped			The Great Steak Cook-Off								
13	7	FOX			The Simpsons (N) [E]			The Simpsons (N) [E]			Family Guy (N) [E]			American Dad (N) [E]			Stargate SG-1 "Lost City" (N) [E]						The Outer Limits "Flower Child" [E] [E]			★★★ "Mission of the Shark" (1991, Drama)								
40	38	FX			King of Hill ★½ "Dude, Where's My Car?" (2000)												Ashton Kutcher.						★★ "Darkness Falls" (2003) Chaney Kley.											
30	55	FXBS			Beyond the Glory [E]			Poker Superstars									Poker Superstars						Boxing: Sunday			Rockies			Track					
5	14	HBO			"Malcolm X" (1992) Amanda Bynes. [E] 'PG' [E]			★½ "What a Girl Wants" (2003)									(:15) ★★★ "Men in Black" (1997, Science Fiction) Tommy Lee Jones. [E] 'PG-13' [E]						Deadwood "The Whores Can Come" (N) [E]											
62	67	HGVTV			Designed Want That			Subterraneans									Living on the Edge II						Renovation Kitchen			Designed Want That								
58	52	HIST			Stealth and Beyond "Sea Stealth" [E]						The Hurricane That Saved London (N) [E]									Conquerors "William the Conqueror" [E]			Breaking Vegas Card-counters. [E]			Stealth and Beyond "Sea Stealth" [E]								
25	35	IND			★★★ "Entrapment" (1999) (PA) Sean Connery. A veteran thief's new partner has a hidden agenda.												★★★ "Entrapment" (1999) (PA) Sean Connery. A veteran thief's new partner has a hidden agenda.						★★★ "Trapped" (2002) Charlize Theron.											
18	63	LIFE			"Love in Another Town"						Strong Medicine [E]									Strong Medicine [E]						Missing "Last Stop"			Wild Card [E] [E]					
23	77	MTV			Challenge Challenge			Barkers Barkers			Barkers Barkers									Barkers Famous			MTV Crips Famous			Pimp Ride			Pimp Ride					
3	9	NBC			Dateline NBC [E] [E]						The Contender "The Final Four" (N) [E] [E]												Law and Order: Criminal Intent "My Good Name"			Crossing Jordan "Jump Push Fall" [E] [E]			News [E]			(:35) Over-time		
8	8	NBC			The Contender "The Final Four" (N) [E] [E]						Law & Order: Criminal Intent "My Good Name"												Crossing Jordan "Jump Push Fall" [E] [E]			News			(:35) The West Wing "Angel Maintenance" [E]			(:35) Inside Edition (N)		
34	43	NICK			Zoey 101 Romeo! [E]			Full House Full House									Fresh Pr. Cosby			Roseanne Roseanne						Fresh Pr.			Fresh Pr.					
2	2	PBS			Nature "The Dolphin Defender" (N) (DVS)						Mystery! (N) [E] (Part 1 of 2) (DVS)									Auschwitz: Inside the Nazi State The Allies never bombed the railways leading to the gas chambers.						Mystery! "Hetty Wainthrop Investigates"								
38	83	SCIFI			(5:00) "Dragon Fighter"			"Dragon Storm" (2004)			John Rhys-Davies. [E]						Scare Scare						The Outer Limits [E]											
61	41	SPK			Hrsepwer Hrsepwer			Hrsepwer Hrsepwer			WWE Heat						★★★ "Witness" (1985) Harrison Ford. [E]																	
39	51	TLC			Twister: Fury on the Plains [E]			Lightning Strikes Back									Trading Spaces: Family (N) [E]			Untold Stories of the E.R. "No Time to Think"						Trapped in a Canyon: The Aron Ralston Story								
28	37	TNT			NBA Basketball Playoffs -- Teams TBA. (Live) [E]												Inside the NBA [E]						★★★ "Money Talks" (1997) [E]											
51	86	TRAV			Future City						Games Vegas									Las Vegas: Sucker Bets			Future City			Games Vegas								
21	82	TVLND			Highway to Heaven [E]						Griffith Leave			Top 10						3's Co.						3's Co.			Cheers [E] Cheers [E]					
60	89	UNIV			"Que No Corro"						Solamente Selena El último concierto de Selena.						Impacto						Noticiero			Tras la Verdad								
20	34	USA			★★★ "Liar Liar" (1997) Jim Carrey. [E]												Kojak "All Bets Off" (N)						Law & Order: SVU						Law & Order: SVU					
12	3	WB			Charmed "There's Something About Leo"						Charmed "Death Becomes Them" (N) [E]			Steve Harvey's Big Time Challenge [E] [E]						News [E]			News Sports			Everybody- Will & Raymond Grace [E]								
99	36	WGN			★★ "Guardian" (2001) Mario Van Peebles. [E]												WGN News [E] [E]						Maximum Exposure			The Twilight Zone [E]								