



Be Prepared: A Practical Handbook for New Dads

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An indispensable survival manual for guys entering the trenches of fatherhood, *Be Prepared* is loaded with one-of-a-kind insights, MacGyver-esque tips and tricks, and no-nonsense advice for mastering the first year as a dad.

Finally, a book that teaches men all the things they *really* need to know about fatherhood...including how to:

- change a baby at a packed sports stadium
- create a decoy drawer full of old wallets, remote controls, and cell phones to throw baby off the scent of your real gear
- stay awake (or at least upright) at work
- babyproof a hotel room in four minutes flat
- construct an emergency diaper out of a towel, a sock, and duct tape

Packed with helpful diagrams and detailed instructions, and delivered with a wry sense of humor, *Be Prepared* is the ultimate guide for sleep-deprived, applesauce-covered fathers everywhere.

Be Prepared: A Practical Handbook for New Dads Details

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Jose Guzman says

A great book for dads to be. Funny, useful and smart. A big change from "Dude, you are going to be dad". This one is actually for men who want to take care of their kid and not just avoid nagging. Very recommended.

Neha says

This book was recommended to us by another set of first-time parents, and we were not disappointed.

It's written with a great sense of humor, while providing lots of useful information. It's easy and fun to read, versus some of the other more 'dry' parenting books.

Plus, it's got some great ideas of games parents can play with their babies. And, even some money saving tips, such making your own bath toys - versus spending money on ones from the store.

We're expecting our first child, and this book was definitely worth reading.

Haines Eason says

At times hilarious and, I must assume, imminently useful (my baby's due in August). This book's comprehensive, chronological rundown of what to expect from your first-year baby soothes and empowers. Also to like: its waterproof cover.

Colby says

My favorite handbook for new dads. You won't get insight into the latest expert opinion of raising kids, but it does teach you how to change diapers at a major sporting event. Knowledge is power.

Andy says

Cute book, although some of the advice was suspect. Actual rating 3.5 stars.

Aron says

I found this book to be the perfect thing to read during my wife's 3rd trimester. I had read some pregnancy books and that was very educational, but there was nothing about what happens as soon as you have a new little person to take care of. I was terrified of what would happen at that point... what do you do?! The book does a good job of telling you the basics of what you NEED to know, and it does it in a funny and easy to read way.

The only negative I sort of noticed was that some of the references were a bit dated, not many people have any VHS tapes any more, let alone spare ones for the baby to play with.

I'm really happy that I bought this, I'm still terrified, but slightly more confident that it will all work out fine!

Leah says

I gave this book to my husband as a stocking stuffer--only partly as a joke. Turns out, this book is hilarious and informative. He read it cover to cover on a plane ride and still mentions things from it from time to time. Loved it!

Amy says

I gave this book to my husband when we were anticipating the adoption of our first child, and while he read parts of it (way more than he read of any other baby/parenting book), I read it front to back and found it actually quite helpful. If you have a new dad in your life who wants to read a baby book but doesn't know where to start, this is a man's man look at the arrival of Baby. Humorously written yet with sound advice.

David says

Here goes nothin' . . .!

Bill says

I got a lot of these pregnancy/new dad books as gifts as we prepared for our first child. I found most of these books to be very condescending. The humor to keep us turning the pages would revolve around booze, strippers, and bodily functions. As if this was the only way to keep our attention. (While one or two such jokes are funny, like an Adam Sandler movie, after so-many in a short time, it just is not funny anymore.) Be Prepared, however, is set up and presented differently. There is some of this type of humor, but for the most part it is light-hearted humor. It is set up like a Boy Scout handbook - with sketch drawings vs. pictures and illustrates practicality and function with a twist of fun. Some of the advice is a little over the top - but it knows that as a guy you would just love to try some of them if only your wife would let you. (Dirty diaper pails outside the window to practice your hook shots out the window comes to mind.) This book focuses primarily around birth and beyond, focusing on differing times based on development of your baby. I have caught my wife using this book, laughing and saying "We have to try this!"

Paul says

This was a great balance between humor and real information. Now I know I shouldn't hold a baby by palming their head like a basketball!

Ben Z. says

If Mcgyver was a pediatrician this is the book he'd write.

'Be Prepared' is written like an instruction guide for clueless new dads, a demographic I just joined. It's written just as a product manual. The book is loaded with creative ninja-like tips for managing your baby. Guys will appreciate the step-by-step procedures and problem solving format. I did a rapid skim in an evening and then revisited chapters in more detail as my baby has reached different milestones.

The author's cheesy humor and the silly illustrations quickly get old, but there's enough useful information to make this book a useful edition to any new dad's reading arsenal.

Corey Thibodeaux says

If you've seen the clues scattered about the web, you'd surmise that I am inbound to fatherhood. The panic settles further in as every grain of this 9-month anticipation becomes a boulder of immense burden.

No one is really ever ready, are they? At least reading this book, I can be unprepared with blind confidence. "Behold, baby, as I lather you in a bottle of sunscreen, affix this multi-eared hat to your soft scalp and strap you onto my concaving back. We are PREPARED for this sun-soaked stroll."

I assembled a crib, a dresser and a light fixture. That's all I can do, while my wife harbors an unknown ball of dependency in her own belly. But do not be fooled - the man still has his role to play. And even as a helpless support, I'll have to embrace it.

Dan Weaver says

Read this and Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*, and you're set.

Marie says

It is quite possible that this is THE BEST new dad book that I have come across for husbands... especially if they are handymen who watched Macgyver when they were little :) A lot of humor, information and really great pointers that I never thought of/considered.
