

BOYS & MANNERS CHEATSHEET

from TheHomemakersMentor.com, Copyright © 2024

Understand Boys:

- Boys are off in their own world. It is not natural for them to think of the feelings of others outside this world.
- They will easily forget what they are told, and need reminding.
- Get them to look you in the eyes when talking to them.
- Deep down, boys really do want to please you.
- Boys respond to consistent modeling.
- Boys are full of energy and must be allowed to spend it – but it **can** be directed where you want it to go (ie. Outside) instead of being spent in improper places (ie. Running in the house, etc.).

Understand Manners:

- Manners are more than just rules & regulations. Manners reveal the attitudes Boys have toward others and situations.
- Your list of “house rules” (good manners) should reflect this underlying attitude, instead of being concerned with the tiny details of etiquette.
- Good manners are imparted through consistent modeling.
- How much your Boys value manners will be determined by how much YOU value manners.

Moms:

- Get on the same page with Dad concerning manners training.
- Do not make manners training a drudgery for your Boys.
- Do not micro-manage or “sissify” manners.
- Dad is the primary role model for your Boys but **You** are the "manners cop".

Dads:

- A lot of bad manners are the result of what Dad has allowed in the house. They will go as far as you let them and then some.
- If your Boys have been allowed to get away with specific bad manners in the past, apologize to your Boys for your lack of leadership, re-establish the rules and let them know specifically what they are, then enforce the sanctions if they are broken.
- Watch your table talk.
- Be involved in manners training.
- Back up Mom.
- Do not laugh at “gross” words or behavior.

Boys Need to be Told:

- Manners are not “sissy” -- they demonstrate strength and good character.
- Bad manners = lack of self control & indifference to others.
- How you treat others is more important than pleasing yourself.
- Honor and obey your parents. Treat your mother like a lady.
- Respect should always be shown to elders.
- Be a protector of those weaker and smaller than you are.
- There are proper places to “be wild” and improper places to “be wild”.
- Body noises and “gross” is never for mixed company.
- You must determine in advance what your actions and responses will be when you are put in specific social situations (ie. Greeting visitors, being willing to have your own activities interrupted in order to obey parents, etc.)

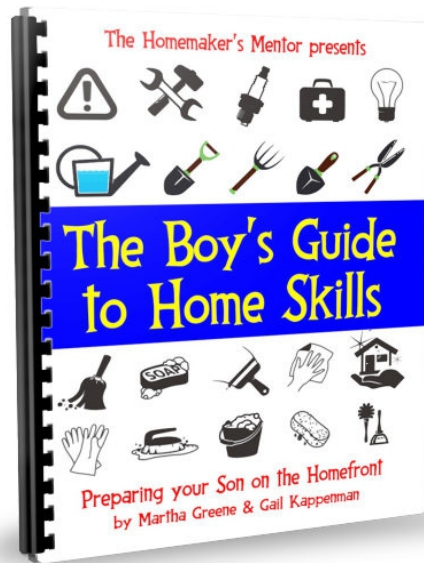
Manners Training:

- The earlier you start, the better.
- Communicate your intentions to help your Boys improve their manners.
- Explain to them in terms they can understand why manners are important.
- Prioritize your manners “trouble spots” and concentrate on these first before going on to lesser things.
- Pray with your Boys.
- Give them specific “house rules”, post them on your refrigerator and review often.
- Reward spontaneous demonstrations of good manners.
- Establish consequences for purposely breaking manners rules.
- Use inadvertent displays of poor manners rules as teaching time for the future.
- Have “practice meals” on occasion to teach better dining manners.
- Make a game of manners.
- Consistency in your own modeling manners is vital.
- Both parents must be on the same page.
- The time to teach manners is BEFORE problem situations arise, not in the midst of social disasters.
- Monitor who your Boys are spending their time with.
- Monitor what they see on TV.

Key Bible Verses:

- Proverbs 22:6 (“Train up” literally means to “narrow up”)
- It is your Boys' duty to obey parents (Ephesians 6:1-3) from the heart, not just to please the parents (Ephesians 6:6,7).
- Don't provoke your children in their training (Ephesians 6:4).

If you are homeschooling boys, check out this excellent "hands on" resource:



Do your boys know how to...

- Sew a button back onto a shirt?
 - Do a load of laundry?
 - Tie a man's tie?
 - Mop the floor & clean the bathroom?
 - Plan a garden?
 - Deal with emergencies?
 - Clean up their own messes?
 - Make guests feel at home?
 - Read a recipe & cook or bake it?
 - Wash the dishes?
 - Whittle a stick or build a cabin?
 - Unclog a double sink or a toilet?
 - Make a budget & keep a savings ledger?
- If not, you need this book!**

If you'd like your boys to learn all the skills mentioned above (and more), you'll find **THE BOY'S GUIDE TO HOME SKILLS: A YOUNG MAN'S HANDYBOOK** by Gail Kappenman & Martha Greene to be the perfect "how to" guide. Designed for boys age 8-15, **this 183 page PDF manual** provides a wealth of practical, old-fashioned, boy know-how, with enough information (and helpful illustrations) on each topic to give your son a chance to try his hand at cooking, cleaning, gardening, building, whittling, camping, fishing, home repair – just to name a few. It also includes loads of recipes, basic sewing skills, and laundry information – for when Mom isn't home! This is a wonderful guide for any boy wanting to learn about "hands on" things that don't require a computer or a smart phone.

Also Included: A Complete 150 page Lesson Curriculum!

- ✓ 38 Weekly "Hands-On" Lessons + loads of "Repeating Projects" (ie. cooking, chores, growing a garden crop, building, etc.) that correspond with the chapters in **The Boy's Guide to Home Skills**
- ✓ Each lesson includes an overview, lesson objectives, materials lists, prep notes, and walks you step-by-step through every topic, every project, every skill.
- ✓ How to think like a boy... and how NOT to teach.
- ✓ How to use the almost magical "**Super Skills Formula**" – the #1 Most Effective way to teach new skills so they'll never be forgotten.
- ✓ Loads of new learning activities, attention-getters and "hands-on" projects to make teaching a breeze, and learning more interesting and fun.
- ✓ PERFECT for Homeschooling, Family use, co-ops and small groups ages 8 to 15. (In fact, it's pretty much a complete one year Home Economics curriculum ...but you really don't have to tell him that!)

[Click here](#) for more info & sample pages