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Tips For Potty Training A Stubborn Toddler

By Susanne Myers

I potty trained quite a few kids over the years, but I have to tell you, my daughter has been the toughest so far. She is just such a stubborn child - especially when it comes to potty training. If you are in the same situation, here are some tips that have worked for my daughter and me. With a little luck they will work for you as well.

Stick To Your Plan

Once you determined that your child is ready for potty training, it is especially important with a stubborn child that you stay consistent and stick to your game plan. Don't go back and forth between putting a diaper on her one afternoon - because it is convenient and then expect her to go back to using the potty. This isn't a good idea for any child in potty training, but is particularly bad with your stubborn child. On that same note, don't give in to her when she asks for a diaper, or wets her pants. She may even try to hold "it". Check with your pediatrician to see how long you can safely stick to your guns in that case.

Relax and Keep Your Cool

Potty training a stubborn toddler can test your patience to almost no end. You will be tempted to blow off some steam at time - and you should - but not in front of your toddler. This is a difficult time for her and she needs all your support and cheering. She doesn't need to feel like you are disappointed in her. Do your best to relax and keep your cool. If you can't, then step out of the room for a few minutes to regroup or yell at a pillow - out of hearing range of your toddler of course.

Make It Fun

How can you take the stubbornness right out of your toddler, when it comes to potty training? Make it fun! Add a drop or two of blue food coloring to the toilet bowl and tell your toddler she can turn it a different color by peeing in it. Drop a cheerio in the bowl for a little boy to use as target practice.

Use Positive Reinforcement

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Using positive reinforcement is your best potty training tool while training a stubborn toddler. Become your child's biggest cheerleader when she goes in the potty. You can also offer her a small treat like a few M&Ms or a sticker to show her how proud you are of her using the bathroom.

A great tool for positive reinforcement is a potty training chart. You can draw your own or find a printable potty training chart online. Each time your child uses the potty you either draw a smiley face on the chart or use a sticker. Hang the chart up so everyone can admire your child's progress.

For more potty training tips a free e-course on potty training and a free potty training chart visit

<http://www.mypottytraining.com>

Let's Use The Potty–Potty Training

By Debra Slater

Potty training is a major milestone for a toddler. We had bought a book called "Once Upon a Potty" for his first birthday and he enjoyed reading about Joshua using the potty. My mother bought him a DVD called "I Gotta Go!" which he enjoyed watching and singing along. My mother bought my son a potty when he was around 1.5 years old and I started sitting him on it from time to time.

But none of those things got him to use the potty everytime. The trick with him was M & Ms. I had talked to another mom at Kindermusik about how she got her son to go to the potty (he was a year younger than my son). She said she started giving him M & Ms everytime he went to the potty. When we got home, I started using her suggestion. You know what, my son started using the potty everytime the same day. Amazing! Within a couple of weeks, I stopped using the M & Ms and he kept using the potty.

Every child is different and they are all ready when they're ready. Here is a small list of some of the signs they are ready:

1. Able to understand and follow simple directions.
2. Has bowel movements at regular times every day.
3. Able to remain dry for about two hours at a time.
4. Has a name for urine and bowel movement.

Most articles I read said that most toddlers are ready between 18 and 24 months, but it is not uncommon for some children to still be in diapers until they are 3 years old. And really, they don't have to be in diapers. There are training underwear available for toddlers that are more like underwear, but have diaper protection. That's what we used with our son until he would tell us everytime he had to go potty.

Of course, he is no longer using his potty; he has graduated to the big potty with a potty seat. He feels like such a big kid using the big potty and no longer wears training underwear at night. He wakes himself up to go potty. He is always proud of himself when he doesn't have any accidents at night.

Tips For Potty Training A Stubborn Toddler

Potty training is not easy, and it takes alot of patience and understanding from us parents to help our little ones reach this milestone. Just take it slow and you'll find the magic trick to help your toddler too.

Debra Slater: With over 25 years of experience in the baby related industry,

<http://HappyMothers.com>

&

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has the most experienced and knowledgeable sales staff. We

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