

HELPFUL PARENTING TIPS FOR COUPLES

We often read about how hard parenting is for a single parent. Make no mistake – it is! Often overlooked, however, is the fact that parenting is tough for everyone – single or married, young or old.

Being part of a parenting pair nowadays, a couple has its own unique set of challenges. Ideally, parenting styles of husband and wife will blend and complement each other.

Here are some suggestions that might be useful:

- ☛ Try to agree on major parenting issues. The two of you are much more influential when you agree. Make as many major parenting decisions together as possible. Try to support each other's decisions made separately. If you have concerns, try to share them privately.
 - ☛ If you do disagree, try to do so amicably. Show your child that it is possible to disagree with someone but still respect and love them.
 - ☛ Allow time in your busy schedule for each other. Put your relationship as a couple first.
 - ☛ Do not accept any form of spousal abuse. Your acceptance will teach your child to do the same.
 - ☛ Share new information about your child or parenting with your spouse. If you take a parenting class together, try not to become overly critical of each other. Knowing what you should do and doing it are two different things. Old habits die hard. Be supportive.
 - ☛ Admit your mistakes. No one is perfect, especially in parenting.
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The greatest gift that a father can give his children is to love their mother. The opposite is also true. Love often makes parenting a lot easier.