

Grooming Your Teen for Independence

The teenage years can feel like a roller coast ride for both parents and their children. As your teen pursues independence, it's natural for you to want to keep him close. Or maybe you worry that she'll leave the nest before she's prepared to fly.

To insure that both you and your teen are confident during this period of transition, take time now to teach your teen skills that will help him make good choices, take care of himself, and feel confident when he enters adulthood.

Independent life skills will be important whether your teen goes off to college, enters the military, or decides to work full time. Once she leaves high school she'll make her own decisions, often with little or no time to seek your advice.

Now is the time to teach your teen how to...

- Manage time wisely
- Manage and save money
- Balance a checkbook
- Wash laundry
- Honor commitments and keep promises
- Weigh pros and cons before making decisions
- Make excellence a habit

