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# Good To Be Grand: Making The Most Of Your Grandchild's First Year



## Synopsis

Becoming a grandparent is a major milestone, raising new questions, challenges, and opportunities. Prepare for this transformative stage of life—and make the baby's first year one of the most meaningful experiences for both of you. Good to Be Grand is the ultimate roadmap for today's grandparent, combining the latest information about infant care—from medical developments to equipment innovations to parenting practices—with honest, down-to-earth advice and anecdotes about grandparents' special role. Journalist and new grandmother Cheryl Harbour gets right to the point of what modern grandparents really need to know from the time they begin anticipating the birth to the end of the first year. Harbour takes the best and most relevant information from the latest research, expert interviews, and thick parenting books and tailors it specifically for grandparents, recognizing the unique bond they share with their children's children. Each chapter provides interesting facts and observations about what has remained the same and what has changed about childcare over the years, what you can do to support the physical and emotional well-being of your grandchild and, most important, what you can do to make the most of the experience. With a foreword by Hillary Rodham Clinton, including her personal reflections on the birth of her first grandchild, Good to Be Grand is for smart and sophisticated grandparents eager to embark on their grandparenting journeys with enthusiasm, knowledge, and confidence.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

When you start to read this book, be prepared to smile, learn, think, reflect, reminisce, and chuckle . . . all the way to the end. Armed with current knowledge on baby care and child development, you will be ready to enjoy and enrich your family life in the role of a grandparent.

Lois Kercher, PhD, RN, past president of American Organization of Nurse Executives

Many of my patients prepare for having a baby by reading up on the topic, but Good to Be Grand is specifically for grandparents and offers a wealth of important information most grandparents probably don't know. I wholeheartedly recommend Cheryl Harbour's book to couples looking for an excellent resource to pass on to their own parents in preparation for grandparenthood.

Lisa Mazzullo, MD, OB/GYN, coauthor of Before Your Pregnancy: A 90-Day Guide for Couples on How to Prepare for a Healthy Conception

Cheryl Harbour's Good to Be Grand is a great read for any new grandparent. I recommend the book as a resource for parents and grandparents alike. . . . Solidly grounded in current knowledge of child and family development yet accessible to anyone interested in learning more about the life-changing experience of grandparenting, which I believe to be potentially the most important family role of this century.

Roma Stovall Hanks, PhD, professor and department chair for the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work and research director at the Center for Generational Studies, University of South Alabama

In this engaging book, Cheryl Harbour shows us that grandparenting isn't just a simple reboot of the parenting role, but will require learning new skills, both communicative and practical, as well as rediscovering forgotten joys. She is a wise and appealing companion for this journey and she has written a lively, accessible and informative guide that will be welcomed by anyone embarking on this wondrous phase of life.

Michael O.L. Seabaugh, PhD, psychologist and writer

If only every stage of life had a book like this to go with it! Good to Be Grand not only informs but highlights the opportunity to approach grandparenting with intention and along the way discover new areas of personal growth.

Linda Renzi, MA, LCPC, Clear Path Center for Well Being

As a journalist and communications consultant, Cheryl Harbour has researched and written about topics as diverse as nuclear energy, education, health, logistics, and women's leadership. About to become a grandmother, she turned her attention to finding the best information available on the first year of a baby's life, eager to share not only the facts but awareness of the abundant opportunities for inspiration and transformation. Since 2011, she has kept a lively conversation going with women on the interactive web site she founded [www.iwdialogue](http://www.iwdialogue) (Intelligent Women Dialogue), encouraging

an exchange of views on world affairs, U.S. politics, modern society and health and now she adds grandparenting to the mix."

This book is a wonderful gift for any first time grandparent! I received this book as a gift and have kept it on my nightstand as a quick read/reference point during my grandsons first year. Cheryl Harbour does a wonderful job of "clift noting" all of the important firsts in your grandchild's first year and your own, as a grandparent! And I love how she thoughtfully provides helpful tips on respecting the first time parents parenting skills. Along with providing points on how a grandparent can be an important/ influential person in a grandchild's first year. I am now giving this as a gift to any of my friends who are going to be first time grandparents

This review is based on my expectation of the books content. It may be a wonderful book for you. I wanted a book about new baby care and assisting the new parents.

We Grandparents (Ma's AND Pa's) share questions and search for answers every time we get together. This book is exactly what we have needed! Upbeat, reader friendly, concise presentation of information and guidance with links to authorities to dig deeper into subject of personal interest.. The one thing everyone agrees on today across all political, social, geographical divides is wanting the best for our Grandkids. Making the most of first year gets it 'right 'from the start!

Whether you're a new grandparent or not this book is full of information for all grandparents. The writing is personal and heartfelt. I loved every chapter - currently have 4 grandsons ranging in age from 11 yrs. down to 6 wks.

Beautifully written and full of advice that's both practical and inspirational. I was reminded of the joy and trepidation I felt in my first year as a grandparent...with a big emphasis on the joy. A little gem of a book.

This book is great preparation to take on the grandparenting role, and it's fun to read. I liked the combination of facts and good advice from experts. It answered some question I didn't even know I had.

Excellent book! Really enjoyed reading it and was pleased to get many great ideas. I highly

recommend it for all new grandparents and parents!

“You can make sure your grandchild knows, without a shred or a pinprick or a speckle or a freckle of a doubt, that you are one (more) person who loves him or her completely.” Cheryl Harbour concludes in her book, *Good to Be Grand: Making the Most of Your Grandchild’s First Year*. This one-hundred-twenty-eight-page hardbound targets grandparents or grandparents-to-be regarding the first year of their grandchild’s life. With a foreword by Hillary Rodham Clinton and an introduction, six chapters cover the topic, ending with a conclusion, acknowledgments, and the author’s biography. Several photographs, charts, and drawings are spread throughout the pages with green highlighted sections containing tips, guidelines, sources, definitions, additional resources, and milestones. In this short book focusing on pre-birth to the first year of life, it discusses the anticipation, arrival, adjustments, advances, action, and advice based on the twelve month period. Each chapter reminds the grandparent how it used to be done, what still works, and new ideas in child-rearing. Also including poems and quotes, it reminds the readers to make being a grandparent grand. Why With one three-year-old granddaughter and two more grandchildren to be born this year, my husband and I have been brushing up on our grandparenting skills even though we live out of state from both our sons and their wives. I like that this book offers what worked thirty to fifty years or more ago still is in use and what newfound ways, concepts, and products exist today. Still used are the APGAR scoring, nursing the first four to six months, and the “crying it out” theory. Parents can now consider detailed ultrasounds, doulas, lactation cookies, white noise, elimination communication, baby wearing, baby massaging, amber necklaces, baby sign language, and the “be here now” concept. Since all are discussed in a simplistic format in this book, it helps the grandparent understand what to expect the first year of his or her grandchild’s life. Why Not Some may find little or no new information if they have been around newborns the last couple of years. Others who do not live near their grandchildren so cannot participate as often as mentioned in this book may feel displaced, further reminding them of the physical divide. A few readers may not care for the included writer’s personal experiences. Who As a journalist who has researched and written about a myriad of topics, Harbour is a first-time grandmother and the founder of Intelligent Women Dialogue. She lives in Illinois. Wish It would be helpful if the book had an index so one could look up a topic or current-day product quickly instead of searching the book’s pages. Want If you are or are going to be a

first-time grandparent, this is a thoughtful reminder of who and what is important in helping to raise and take care of a newborn to one-year-old child. This book blends the old with the new in a helpful, understanding manner for new grandparents. Thanks to Bookpleasures and the author for this book to read and review.

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