



Managers of Their Homes: A Practical Guide to Daily Scheduling for Christian Homeschool Families

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Audrey says

This is a Fabulous book!!! If you hate schedules, love schedules, or don't know how to use one (or anything in between) this book is for you. If you feel like you never have enough time in your day to do the things you want to, read this book! If you are tired and stressed out and discouraged from trying to do everything and wondering if you forgot something, read this book! This book is not directly about raising children and marriage, but I believe it will have a huge impact on both. An empathetic book that is easy to read and doesn't make you feel terrible for not being able to do-it-all.

Elizabeth says

I finished Manager of the Their Homes last night. I was frustrated all week that I didn't have time in my schedule to read, an irony that wasn't lost on me. Anyway, I had already started working on my schedule and it turns out I had read through the meat of the book already. The book is very openly written by and for "Christian Homeschooling Moms" but honestly any working mom can benefit from this book. The book isn't preachy if you're not Christian, but she doesn't hide her faith either. Anyway, I had a lot to think about and thought she made some really good points about scheduling. I just made my schedule straight into Excel and plan to tweak it as we try it out.

chellaine says

A friend gave me this book and I love it! I love the idea of routines and schedules and knowing what is going to happen next, but with children or life in general, anything is possible haha! I love how there are examples of different schedules in the back of the book, they are very helpful with me trying to get an idea of what I want and need. I'm definitely going to keep this book where I can find easily, it really has Wonderful ideas! I generally like a good routine, but am still having issues with waking up early haha!

Maren says

Great tool for anyone staying at home with their kids and for homeschool families

Nicole says

I thought there were a lot of good ideas in this book. I'm never going to be the kind of person who goes all post-it note with the schedule like she suggests, but there is probably something to having some major items scheduled on a daily basis like getting out of bed. I am fairly suspicious of complex systems having any staying power, but maybe it's just me? I also definitely had the idea when I went to the website like this book

was just a hook to get me into buying several more organizational products. Most of the time, no amount of stuff can make up for internal discipline.

Angela Boord says

I'm not sure how many times I've read this book, but I seem to re-read it every couple of years. While I've never put together a schedule exactly according to their methods, I have gleaned enough information to make it an invaluable resource, especially for someone who is organizationally challenged, like me.

Havebooks Willread says

I re-read my copy of Managers of Their Homes (MOTH) and loved it all over again. This is my third time through it and I get something new from it each time (likely because of the different seasons during which I've read it). She already had me sold with her analogy of using a schedule to budget our time just like we "tell our money what to do" with a budget. We only have so much time (as we only have so much money) and we have to be the ones to control it or it will just. . . disappear with nothing to show for it.

While we have retained the basics of a school schedule for the older children, this time through the most helpful section for me was chapter three, scheduling younger children's days. She reminded me that "little ones are more peaceful, content, and obedient when their days are planned and routine, including regular changes of activity" (11). She suggests planned activity changes so that children play in a specific room with specific items for 30 minutes and then you have them change their location and/or activity. She even encourages rotations of toys for different days of the week and includes art/craft supplies as a suggested 30-minute activity.

Blair R says

I was a scheduling rebel, but now am humble enough finally to admit I need help!!

I've come across this book several times, at conventions, on blogs, and always saw the multicolor schedule and ran the other way. Not for me! I can't micromanage my life to that degree! I have a routine. That's more my style. Ahem. Perhaps there's something to that giant multicolor chart though, as I look around and wonder how to get everything done, keep everyone on task, and still have sanity left at the end of the week. The routine wasn't cutting it. So, I finally bought the book.

Teri Maxwell lays out a convincing and doable plan for developing what can look like a very intimidating schedule. I felt as if she had lurked in our house, as every excuse I've ever had against scheduling was presented with a counterpoint. She illustrated that in fact, those very excuses were WHY we needed a schedule in the first place. I'm not sure if this would be helpful for a non-homeschooling family, but for us, I wish I had grabbed this book when I heard about it years ago. If you are homeschooling or homemaking with out support and/or example of others in real life to help you muddle through how exactly ones tends to babies, houses, life outside the house, and still homeschool multiple children, Teri's book will definitely help you get there.

Larisha says

Annually I will reread portions of this book as a refresher and try to do it in the Summer before the start of a new school year.

I have always thought I was pretty organized, but we can always learn something new and for those looking for help organizing your home school day(or non-home school day), this book can really be a tremendous help organizing chaos or just simply helping you get more done in a day than you otherwise would!!

This is now my 3rd full year of using this method since seeing the couple and hearing them speak in NJ and after committing your scheduling to God and putting in the time to work on the schedule and be FLEXIBLE with it and allow yourself some grace ...it really works!

Yvonne says

This book is great for Type A personalities who are managing a Type A family. It was an epic failure for my family. My family is too relaxed for the hour by hour life-style. I do recommend it if the whole family is on board with it! I believe your life will be more structured and organized. I went the opposite direction and now I can't find my keys half the time.. the house is disorganized and the book is missing but it's easier for me to just grab the 2nd set of car keys and look for lost things than get my husband and 2 sons to follow a chart hour by hour... plus I don't look so ..(thinking of the nice word here ..).. I don't look so "controlling".

Brianna Kidd says

This was a GREAT help in organizing the time in my household. My schedule didn't turn out as strict as her suggestions, but I also don't have as many kids, so I have the freedom to be a little more flexible. :)

What it did help in was giving me the tools to "make the best use of the time." Having a rough outline of our days makes it possible to fit in all of the most important things, make time for the things that had been neglected, and say no to the unimportant. My kids are happier within a routine because they no what to expect. I am a more peaceful and patient mom, and my husband appreciates coming home to order rather than chaos.

This was a great read for a homeschooler, and I'm sure non-homeschoolers would benefit too!

Danielle says

I was able to take away several helpful ideas with regards to scheduling and homeschooling but overall the premise of the book is too rigid. My schedule needs more fluidity and one day doesn't look like the next in my week. I appreciate the heart and intention of the author in writing this book and will continue to attempt to implement some of her suggestions. I did also like looking through all the example schedules included in the back of the book.

Leslie says

This book is great for anyone considering applying a schedule to fit their home management and/or homeschooling needs. There are many useful resources and tools in this spiral-bound workbook. If you thrive with things written down, days that are specifically ordered, etc, a home schedule may be helpful. We've found great success and freedom (ironically) in applying some of the principles from this book. It came as a recommendation from my sister-in-law whose house is full and active with eight beloved children underfoot. She has used it since the beginning of her homeschooling days. Great recommendation!

Heather Gmiterek says

I tend to be housekeeping/scheduling challenged. A regimented life does not appeal to me. That being said there are many many things from this book we are going to implement in our home.

The idea of my kids having scheduled playtimes and activities with each other kind of rocked my world. We already started this and have used it when we've have bonus kids around too. I'm having a set beginning and end to time together and changing activities has actually saved me a ton of time. Instead of letting them play until someone melts down or hurts each other or a massive explosions of big feelings happen we end the time, have a few moments of sad and move on. Where before they would play fantastically then all of the sudden we'd have issues that required much of my time and attention to put out fires, help squabbling children problem solve, kiss and hug the injury inflicted by another sibling or correct and teach better behaviour.

Not everything in this book will work for every one, it is written by a lovely conservative Christian couple with a very large family and very conservative values.

I'd definitely lend it out to anyone who wants to borrow it. The tone is very encouraging and the chapter for husbands to encourage their wives was fantastic.

Amanda says

I read this book as part of my research into homeschooling as my husband and I discuss and pray about our children's schooling options. Even if we decide not to homeschool, this book gave a lot of interesting suggestions that I think can apply to family life in general. She made several points that, while seemingly obvious, are easy to overlook at times when immersed in the hustle and bustle of family life.
