

Start Homeschooling

The absolute beginners 'I don't know where to start please help me' guide to homeschooling.



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Why I Wrote This Book

On my website, www.homeschooling-ideas.com, I have a questions sections where people can ask a real live homeschooling Mom whatever then need to know.

[Homeschooling Help Page](#)

I don't always know the answer (and I am not always right!) but I do like to try to help where I can.

As the question page got popular, I got more and more questions from more and more people all saying (basically) the same thing :

Please help me. I want to homeschool but I don't know where to start.

I kept answering the question, but people kept asking it! So I realized 3 things :

1. The start homeschooling section of my site wasn't helping people to start homeschooling!
2. The answers I were giving helped only if you were in the same Country/State as the person asking.
3. When I answered the question I ALWAYS went through the same process of :
 - figuring out what the laws were for that person
 - trying to put them in touch with their local homeschoolers
 - trying to give them an overview of homeschooling so they could start to figure out how they wanted to do it.

So – in an effort to REALLY help you with this question, I have written this book to talk you through my process – so you can help yourself without needing me to do it for you.

Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day.

Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.

Introduction

Have you decided you want to homeschool, but just don't know where to start? Then this is the book for you.

This workbook is going to take you through the steps you need to get started. In an easy to do way!

Please print this book out and grab a pen before you start reading it. You are going to want to make notes!

If you work through this workbook you will have made a great start on your homeschooling journey. Good luck and enjoy!

Although it can seem really overwhelming to know where to begin when you first start homeschooling – there is an easy process you can work through that will help to clear the way. This book is the beginning. There are three steps that you are going to work through to get the answers you need.

Step 1 – What are the laws about homeschooling where you live?

Step 2 – Connecting with local homeschoolers

Step 3 – Learn a little about homeschooling so you can figure out how you want to do it.

I will explain each step in detail and show you how to get the information you need. Each step is followed by a worksheet that you can use to gather and record that information.

By the time you have finished this workbook you will understand the laws for your country or state about homeschooling, have met some other homeschoolers, and have

got started in researching exactly how you will do things.

Will you be a totally self-sufficient up and running homeschooler? Probably not!

But you will have made a start and that will make all the difference!

So go and grab and pen and let's get started.

Step One – The Law

One of the first things you are going to need to know about is the law in your country or state. You will feel much more confident once you know exactly what you have to do legally to become a homeschooler. And what will be expected of you.

The problem with this is it is going to take a little detective work on your part to work this out. All the information is there on the internet – but it isn't always easy to find or understandable. But fear not! I am going to talk you through the process and help you through it. When we are done you may not know ALL the answers – but you WILL know some of them.

If you haven't done so already then start by printing off this ebook – you are going to need the worksheet just after this section next to your computer.

Searching for the law.

We are now going to start searching with Google (or whatever you normally use to find things out on the internet) what EXACTLY is expected of you.

If you are in the US, then start a search like this – adding your state name at the end of the question.



Homeschooling requirments in
homeschooling requirements in nj
homeschooling requirements in texas
homeschooling requirements in georgia
homeschooling requirements in sc
homeschooling requirements in indiana
homeschooling requirements in pa
homeschooling requirements in louisiana
homeschooling requirements in fl
homeschooling requirements in florida
homeschooling requirements in ohio
<input type="button" value="Google Search"/> <input type="button" value="I'm Feeling Lucky"/>

If you are in the UK, then search for Home Education Law to get what you need – or start [here](#).

For other countries search for Homeschooling plus the name of your country.

Next, start looking through the sites to see if you can find the answers to the questions on the worksheet. Some of the sites will be easier to understand than others – and some may not have all the information you need. Just keep looking until you can start filling out the worksheet.

If you are struggling, then try typing out the question on the worksheet, including your state or country.

If a question isn't relevant to you or your State, then just skip it!

Nearly done?

With at least some of the questions answered you will begin to understand what you must legally do to start homeschooling your child – and how to go about it. Don't worry if you can't fill out everything – our next step will put you in touch with the people that can help.

Help Someone Else

Your filled out form would be very useful to other new homeschoolers in your area. Although you must always check yourself for any changes to the law – I have begun to collect forms and place them on the website at :

link to come! I don't have any yet!

Can't see anything for your State or country yet? Why not send yours to me and I will include it in the list.

Worksheet One

Homeschooling Requirements in : _____

Circle Yes or No to each of the following questions :

1. Is Homeschooling legal here ? Yes – No

Note: homeschooling is legal in all US states.

2. What is the age that children must start compulsory education ? _____

3. Do I have to register as a private school ? Yes - No

4. Do I need a high school diploma or equivalent Yes - No

5. Do I have to give notice of my intent to homeschool? Yes - No

- Who do I notify _____

- Once or every year? _____

- What documents/information must be included? _____

NOTES _____

6. Do I need to maintain attendance records ? Yes - No

7. Do I need to maintain immunization records ? Yes - No

8. Do I need to operate on a regular schedule ? Yes - No

9. How much time must be given to education ? _____

10. Do I need to do testing ? Yes - No How often ? _____

Notes about testing _____

11. Are there any language requirements ? Yes – No

12. Are there any required subjects ? Yes – No

- Subjects required _____

Extra Notes about Homeschooling

Step Two – Connecting

Well done for making a start with worksheet one.

We are now going to put you in touch with the people that can really help you get started with homeschooling – other homeschoolers in your area!

They are the ones that will be able to guide you through your local regulations and give you advice on avoiding pitfalls.

So where do we find them?

Well, lots of homeschoolers like to hang out together both online and off! Technology has really helped us to connect with each other and build relationships. And Homeschool groups are a great way for us to support and help each other (as well as socializing our children!).

We aren't hard to find – but you do need to know where to look!

Some of the places where the elusive local homeschooler might be found are :

ONLINE :

- Online Homeschool lists and groups (especially local ones)
- Internet forums
- Homeschool membership organisations
- Special interest groups (such as special needs, parenting groups, etc)

OFFLINE

- Your local library may have details of groups in your area.
- Keep an eye out for group meetings advertised on social meeting place bulletin boards and in local newspapers.

So grab your pen and worksheet two. This time I have included some links to get you started.

I want you to try to identify three places where you might be able to find local homeschoolers – and then join up and get involved.

Worksheet Two

Finding local Homeschoolers

1. Does my local library have any information ? Yes – No
2. Do any of the following links help me find local groups ?
 - [Support Site 1](#) Yes - No
 - [Support Site 2](#) Yes - No
 - [Support Site 3](#) Yes – No
3. Does typing the following as an internet search help?
 - Homeschooling groups in (country or state) Yes - No
 - yahoo homeschooling group in (country or state) Yes – No
 - homeschool support in (country or state) Yes – No
 - homeschool meetups in (country or state) Yes - No
 - homeschool lists for (country or state) Yes - No
 - homeschool forums for (country or state) Yes – No

Groups or lists I have found :

1. _____ Joined? Yes – No
2. _____ Joined? Yes – No
3. _____ Joined ? Yes - No

Step Three – Moving Forward

Congratulations!

I hope you have now worked out the laws or regulations about homeschooling in your area – and managed to find some groups of local homeschoolers to support you.

This is a great start to your homeschooling.

But what do I do now?

Now you need to take some time to find out more about homeschooling, and how it might work for you and your child.

If you are very new to homeschooling you now need to take some time to learn more about homeschooling and the different ways that people do it.

Please do NOT rush out and buy a curriculum!

The time you spend now in doing some research will be invaluable – I promise you. So please don't skip this section. You probably did some of this when you decided to homeschool – but it is worth taking a fresh look.

People homeschool in lots of different ways – and very little of it looks like school. You don't have to try to recreate school at home or use textbooks or keep to a strict schedule. Unless you want to!

Now is the time to have an open mind and at least investigate the wonderful ways that children learn – so you can start forming ideas about how you can encourage your children to learn – and to develop a love of learning.

Step 3 is designed to give you a crash course in homeschooling and what it can be about. Once you have worked your way through the worksheet then you will have a good overview of homeschooling and can begin to formulate your own homeschooling plans.

For a more detailed introduction to 'How to Homeschool' watch out for the next beginners guide from www.homeschooling-ideas.com!

Worksheet Three

An Overview of Homeschooling

We are now going to do some background research on homeschooling.

3 Sites to Visit : These are some different philosophies on homeschooling.

- [Homeschooling Ideas Schedule Information](#)
- [Radical Unschooling](#)
- [Charlotte Mason Homeschooling](#)

2 Books to Read – check if your library has them :

- [Teach Your Own by John Holt](#)
- [The First Year of Homeschooling by Linda Dobson](#)

Note – these links are affiliate links. That means that I will get a little bit of what you pay for them. If you don't want me to get rich, then just go to Amazon yourself and search for the book titles.

You will see that homeschooling is very varied and you have lots of options. It isn't just about getting some textbooks and trying to make your home into a school. But in some ways, having such a choice makes things worse! You have to decide how you want to homeschool, and then how to make that work for your family.

Coming Soon : How to Homeschool

Homeschooling-ideas Beginners Guide to your first month as a homeschooler.

Thanks for reading! Now pass it on.

I hope you have enjoyed my Start Homeschooling Guide and found it useful.

If you did, then please share this e-book

Do me a favour and share this guide and e-course with your friends and homeschool group members. Simply post the following link on your blog, website, yahoo group or favourite forum and ask them to sign-up for the download:

<http://www.homeschooling-ideas.com/start-homeschooling.html>

Thanks! I appreciate it.