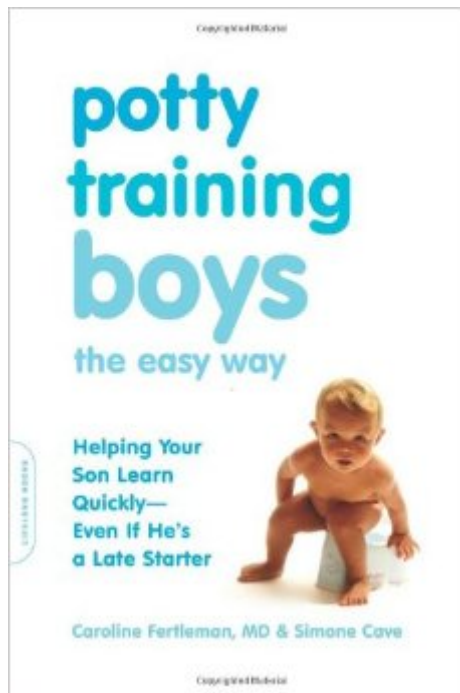


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# Potty Training Boys The Easy Way: Helping Your Son Learn Quickly--Even If He's A Late Starter



## Synopsis

Potty Training Boys the Easy Way is a pediatrician's guide for navigating the challenges unique to toilet training boys. Boys tend to take longer to be trained, learn this skill at later ages, and have different challenges from girls. Parents will find an accessible plan for getting their son trained quickly, clever games to make learning to use the toilet fun, as well as important tips for handling accidents and setbacks. The book includes advice on boy-specific problems, such as whether to teach him to sit or stand and how to aim, dealing with distractions, handling refusals, and staying dry through the night. Practical and reassuring, Potty Training Boys the Easy Way is packed with all the information a family needs to achieve this important milestone calmly and confidently.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

YAY!! Finally, a book devoted entirely to helping moms of boys that are potty training!! This book is fabulous! It's a quick, easy read pointing out practical solutions and common sense approaches to potty training boys. I would recommend it to everyone!! I read 15 books in preparation and this was stellar! It's a must-read and a must-have. It suggests teaching boys in "Sessions" rather than the Potty-Training-In-One-Day idea that RARELY works for boys. The 'Sessions' idea was definitely the key to teaching my son in a happy, relaxed environment. I am SO SO SO SO happy I read this book and am telling everyone about it!! (I would also recommend The Stress-Free Potty Training by Sara Au. It's also FABULOUS!!!)

We had gotten very frustrated with our 3 1/2 year old who seemed completely uninterested in potty training. He was obviously ready in all respects except motivation. It just wasn't as hard with his two older sisters who were potty trained easily at about 2 1/2. But after following the guidance in this book, he was completely independently going on the toilet in week. With the exception of a night-time pull-up, we are diaper free!

A few things really rubbed me the wrong way about this book.<sup>1</sup> First of all, I agree with other reviewers' comments about the inaccurate and unhelpful sexist comments in the book. Every child has their own personality and not all boys lack common sense, just as not all girls have common sense. The sexist slant is pervasive throughout the book and shapes the advice given based on the authors' assumptions.<sup>2</sup> The other problem that I have with this book is that it is (in my opinion) biased against anyone who does start potty training before 3 years old. It is fine that the book is accepting of late potty trainers and I'm sure that it is reassuring to a lot of parents out there that they are not alone and not too late. However, the book goes too far and looks down at those who start earlier as well as those who have employed elimination communication. The book states that "until recently it was fashionable to get babies out of diapers as young as possible." The fact that they call it "fashionable" for those parents who have worked hard to potty train their children earlier, and to no detriment of the child is offensive. In fact, I think that the term "fashionable" applies better to the current trend of later and later potty training. The authors state that "if you don't rush it, potty training will actually take less time in the long run" and "even if you do manage to potty train your son early in his second year, he's then more likely to have a setback... than if you'd waited..." but they do not have any evidence or cite any studies to support these statements. They are simply thrown out there as if they were fact. Furthermore, the authors contradict themselves in the next chapter which contains a section called "don't rush" followed immediately by a section called "don't wait too long."<sup>3</sup> Every step of the actual training involves the parent asking the child a yes or no question (e.g. do you want to wear underwear today? do you want to sit on the potty? etc) and if the child says no, the parent just says "maybe another day" or "maybe next week". Most toddlers will say no by default because they love to say no to anything you ask. It would be much more effective and still very positive to say "hey, let's wear these big boy underpants today!" or "let's go sit on the potty!" This still gives the child the chance to say no if they really don't want to but doesn't invite them to say no just because it's their favorite word. I can just picture parents hearing the same no over and over again and delaying their progress unnecessarily. The book then offers no advice as to what to do if your child keeps saying no (with no end in sight) to the potty training steps and only says to

wait and that your child must not be ready, etc. Aside from the few normal tips that frankly is found in every other book or online article about potty training (e.g. have your toddler see you go to the bathroom), I don't think the book is helpful. It certainly doesn't offer enough useful information to warrant the offensive comments about boys and other methods of potty training. Skip this book as anything worth reading in here can be found for free elsewhere. I also think that some of the ideas in the book actually prolong potty training unnecessarily, which does not make it any easier!

I read several books on potty training (incl. potty training in a day) and this one was by far the best one: easy to read, practical tips throughout. I just love the approach of training in sessions, it totally worked for my little guy! And it was easy to accomplish, no power struggle at all -- I did wait until he was not only ready but also interested and motivated!

We are trying to potty train our son because he has exhibited a lot of interest lately. We needed a book to help us along with fresh ideas because we were only getting so far on our own. The idea of a guide tailored to a boy's needs appealed to our household, but in the end, we would have been better off getting a different handbook for the money. Pros I did rather appreciate the author's idea of potty training in sessions rather than inundating my toddler all day long with bathroom routines. He has a short attention span and low frustration tolerance if he doesn't catch onto a new task right away, so putting "big boy underwear" on him for a few hours a day and training (while gradually upping the amount of time we work on it over a series of weeks) seems to me to be an entirely reasonable and manageable approach. It takes some of the pressure off the parent and the child. I don't see that this technique is boy specific. I think I'll use on it on my daughter as well. Cons Like some reviewers, I did find the author to be sexist when she writes that boys lack common sense that girls are born with. I do not disagree that there are innate, fundamental differences between the sexes but found the authors word choices to be rude and short-sighted. It did cause me to doubt the strength of the rest of the book. The author did seem to have an inclination to stay at home mostly through potty training. She did mention that public restrooms are dirty and did offer alternate suggestions for going out including that some parents take a portable potty with them or carry spare sets of clothing for just in case. I can't imagine how my family would suffer if I dropped all responsibility just to potty train. There is no convenient way to potty train, I realize, but I can't just neglect everything. I found there was a ton of reiteration. The book could have been condensed into a pamphlet and I would have walked away with the same amount of information. I realize potty training is a unique process to be tailored to the needs of the individual child and it can't be

published in a foolproof guide. However, this book strikes me as a waste of money.

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