



First-Time Parent: The honest guide to coping brilliantly and staying sane in your baby's first year

By Lucy Atkins

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First-Time Parent: The honest guide to coping brilliantly and staying sane in your baby's first year By Lucy Atkins

Forget unrealistic childcare manuals – this is the book you really need to help you cope brilliantly with those first chaotic days and months ahead.

As a health journalist and mother-of-three, Lucy Atkins is familiar with both the medical aspects of childbirth and baby development, and the reality of day-to-day life as an exhausted first-time mum or dad. In her feisty, humorous style, she begins with that first mind-blowing day and addresses the issues unique to the first-time parent who stares at their newborn and thinks “Where are the instructions?”

Anticipating the questions and concerns of all new mothers—Why does my baby cry so much? Will I ever lose all this weight? Am I a bad parent because...?—the book provides practical advice and level-headed reassurance. It addresses the needs of the baby and, very importantly, those of the parent during the first year of their baby's life.

Contents include:

- Starter's orders – the equipment and kit you really need, as opposed to what the department store tells you
- Hello – how to cope with the first few hours
- Start – coming home, bonding, how to survive the first few days
- Sleep – for everyone!
- Cry – why your baby cries, what to do, why you'll want to cry, too
- Eat –breastfeeding, supplemental feeding, moving to solids, nutrition
- Grow – baby's physical and mental development
- Play – yes, you two actually can have fun
- Thrive – health considerations for baby and parent
- Live – adapting to your new life, the changing mother-father relationship
- Work – coping with being at home and with going back to work
- Also includes information on single parenting, and on adopted, multiple and special needs babies.

The First-Time Parent is on your side, and reassures that you can cope brilliantly with your new baby and your new life.

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Editorial Review

Review

"You can't go wrong with a book as comprehensive as *First-Time Parent*." —*Tidewater Parent*

About the Author

Lucy Atkins is a health journalist who contributes to *The Guardian* and a literary critic for both the *The Sunday Times* and *The Times Literary Supplement*. Her work has also appeared in the *Telegraph*, *The Times*, and *Red* magazine. She is the coauthor of *Blooming Birth*.

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