



The Schofield Family Share their Real Nappy Secret!



“Pay the money up front for the Real Nappies and for the reusable wipes, forget the marketing you see on TV.”

Mum’s Perspective

We are the Schofield family, our son James is 19 months old and has been using Bum Genius Real Nappies since he came out of hospital. We live in Leicestershire and we like to go out to the park, swimming and family outings visiting Grandparents, pretty much like the average family!

We love using Real Nappies and find them really easy to get on with. My Husband can change our son without any problems, even in the middle of the night! We purchased our Bum Genius nappies from a local Real Nappy event that was in town. There was an offer on to get 3 free nappies with a voucher in conjunction with Leicestershire County Council. This spurred us on to buy a further 20 and we never looked back.

We had some initial teething problems with using Real Nappies; we found that we needed to adjust the positioning of the absorbent microfibre liner to suit our Son's needs. We then found that some of the nappies didn't smell so fresh after washing them in the usual way. A little research discovered that I was using too much washing powder to launder the nappies and this wasn't being rinsed away, causing the nappies to be less absorbent and to smell. The answer was to use less washing powder (which took a while to get into the habit of doing!) and add an extra rinse cycle to the washing machine programme as well as adding a small amount of white vinegar to the softener drawer which, helps to soften and freshen the nappies.

Since these initial problems we have been fine and James spends a few days a week with a Childminder whilst we go out to work. She also gets along easily with them and remembers her children using the old Terry type squares and commented on how much things have moved on with nappy designs since then!

We also combine using Real Nappies with re-usable wipes. We use the Cheeky wipe system and just simply wash these with the nappies. We find them much better at wiping dirty bottoms than disposable wipes. Our Childminder also doesn't have an issue with using them. Washing both of the systems together reduces costs and importantly helps the environment.

Real Nappies save you money; although you have to initially pay out in advance the savings soon come in. You do not have to go out to the shops every week to stock up on packs of disposables, look for the special offers and think where you are going to put the bulk in your house to store them. Real nappies look much better than disposables and people comment on your baby using them when you are out and about and it has all been positive comments; most people didn't realise that they are so well designed and are as easy to use.

A couple of my work colleagues have been convinced to start using Real Nappies. One started to use them and then found out that they were becoming smelly just as mine had, she asked me about this and I let her in on the white vinegar secret – problem solved. The second one has just been to a Nappuccino event and will shortly be purchasing some for her first baby which is due in June.

My top tip relating to Real Nappies would be using vest extenders – they are a brilliant invention. These simply pop onto the bottom of your baby's body vest and add a few extra centimetres to any size vest which can easily accommodate the every so slightly bulkier Real Nappy which also saves you money because you don't have to keep buying vests so regularly!

We intend to use re-usable training pants when James is ready to start potty training. I hope that these will be another money and environmental saving.

My one piece of advice I would give to other parents hoping to give Real Nappies a go would be to pop along to a local Real Nappy event or Nappuccino and have a look at the vast array of nappies on offer, and give them a go, what have you to lose?

Dad's Perspective

Real Nappies are a great idea, I was bothered about the initial outlay as I thought if they don't work and we cannot get on with them then we have wasted a lot of hard earned cash, when the money could be used for other primary necessities for our new born.

It was a good job that I looked into this with my Wife and I have seen the benefit of these. Not just the saving to the pocket but to the environment. As my Wife stated they are easy to use and when I take my Son out and change him in a communal shop's baby station I have a few remarks "are those reusable nappies"? Which seem to strike interest as well as good conversation and there are some great designs for your Baby to wear.

The nappies are really easy to use, when my Mum comes around she thinks they are novel and wants to make them up. They are made up in no time, by inserting an absorbent micro fibre adjustable liner into the pouch of the nappy. Add an optional nappy liner, which catches the solids, fold them up and pop them away ready to use.

When the nappy needs changing remove the liner and pull the micro fibre liner out, place into the nappy bucket to soak, or if you don't want to pre-soak them you can dry store them in a nappy bucket, whatever suits you. You don't even get your hands dirty!

The re-usable baby wipes are brilliant; again there is an initial expense. We bought these three months after having our son; we should have bought these from the offset. With these you not are chasing the number 2 round his bum! You can remove this with ease saving you the stress in those sticky situations and there is money saving to be made here, especially putting these into the wash with your nappies.



We did have a time where sleep deprivation was becoming an issue through wet nappies so, we reverted to a disposable nappy for a few nights which supposed to give better nights sleep, and I soon found this was a marketing ploy as well as a waste of money.

Our Bum Genius nappies were leaking because as my wife has explained before she found out the nappies were being washed in far too much powder making them less absorbent. After solving this issue night times have become a whole lot better.

My top tip as a Dad is to think how you would feel wearing a paper nappy rather than cloth as it can be reused. After all, my Son is my biggest blessing and our future. A financial saving now can be an asset towards his education in later life. His outlook depends on our actions today.

Pay the money up front for the real nappies and for the reusable wipes, forget the marketing you see on TV. Real Nappies are easy to use and easy to travel with.

With regards,

Jennifer and John Schofield and our son James xxx.