

# Two Homes of My Own

1. Assign chores to your child in both homes that are similar, and age appropriate. This gives your child a sense of belonging and lets them contribute to the family in both homes.
2. Make your time together a “natural” time, not always a special event. Being part of everyday routine is important for both parents.
3. Make the child’s routine in each home as similar as possible. Making morning and nighttime rituals, bedtime routines, and homework schedules similar will help the child develop skills necessary to mature.
4. Let the child have a picture of members of the child’s other household in their room in their home with you. It’s their room and their family.
5. If the child likes to talk to the other parent while at your home, make a telephone plan all can live with so it’s not difficult to coordinate each time. If either parent wants to call the child during the other parent’s time with the child, make a plan and call only during reasonable times at reasonable hours. Allow the child to have privacy while they talking to their other home.
6. Have a calendar that shows the days the child is with each parent. You can create this yourself or use tools such as [ourfamilywizard.com](http://ourfamilywizard.com). For younger children use colors or pictures to represent the two homes. For older children, you can put “with mom” or “with dad.”
7. When you child is with you, spend some one-on-one time with them, doing what they like as well as engaging them in whole family functions.

