



MISTAKES MADE WHEN WORKING AT HOME WITH KIDS

Working from home with the kids around can be very challenging, especially if they are little. Each day that passes the line between family life and work seems to fade. We just want 5 minutes to make a quick phone call or to send a quick email.

What are we doing wrong, why won't our kids let us work?

Here are 6 common mistakes made when trying to run your business from home with small kids around.

TRYING TO SNEAK AWAY

Many of us have tried this. Sneaking out of the room when the kids are not looking. It might work for a minute or two but it doesn't last long.

Kids will come looking, wondering where we are and if we are in the cupboard on a call be certain they will want to know who we are talking to and why.

We shouldn't necessarily announce every time we leave the room but wondering in and out will make it seem normal for them.

We don't always have to be there watching our kids as long as they are safe. For the more nervous, using a baby cam to keep watch works wonders.

GETTING TOO INVOLVED

It is easy to sit and play and entertain our kids but when it comes to stepping away, leaving the room, even to go to the toilet this can sometimes be challenging.

We want to be involved but we also want some time to ourselves to make a quick phone call or respond to an email or order.

Ensuring to encourage kids to play independently is essential, both for their own development and also for our sanity.

No child likes it when we mess up their tower, so we should leave them to it and take a step back.

Build independent play into our daily routines and use the time to get some work done.

HIDING WHAT WE ARE DOING

We are trying to work, why do the kids keep trying to get involved?

Kids of all ages are curious and it is only natural that they will want to know what we are up to. Especially if it involves new and wonderful things they have yet to explore.

We shouldn't be afraid to show them what we are doing. They might find it boring and lose interest quickly.

It might also spark a new love of phones, laptops and technology, who knows.

Finding time to allow kids to explore will mean when it's our turn to have a go, they are more likely to sit back and just observe what we do.

TRYING TO DO TOO MUCH

With the kids at home we now have even more things on our to do list. How are we supposed to get them all done?

Simple answer, Don't!! We can't possibly do everything we want to, there simply is not enough time.

This is when deciding what is important and what is not is essential. Assessing what needs to be done today, tomorrow and what can wait.

Having a strategy will help ensure we stay productive, do what needs to be done and don't get overloaded and burnt out.

Delegation is a great tool that enables us to get things achieved, without wasting our valuable time.

If the kids can help, don't be afraid to get them kids involved. They might love it and it takes a task of our to do list.

GETTING STRESSED

We are all stuck indoors with our kids trying to lead a 'Normal' Life. Getting stressed, who does it help?

Often when we get stressed, so do our kids and this causes an endless cycle that usually ends in shouting. Staying calm is key!

Trying to remain positive and not show our stress and frustrations can actually change the whole dynamic of the household.



The children will be calmer and more content. Less clingy and happier to explore and play independently.

This giving us some much-needed head space to get some work done.

MISSING OPPORTUNITIES

Wish we had more time to get things done? Throughout the day there are many opportunities that are often missed or overlooked.

Here are some examples of times when we could be getting a little bit of work done.

When children are having TV time, this is the perfect time to get some work done. They might not move off the sofa for half hour so get the laptop out.

There will be times when you can sit back and relax while the children explore outdoors. This is a great time to get inspired and get typing as well as getting a sun tan

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