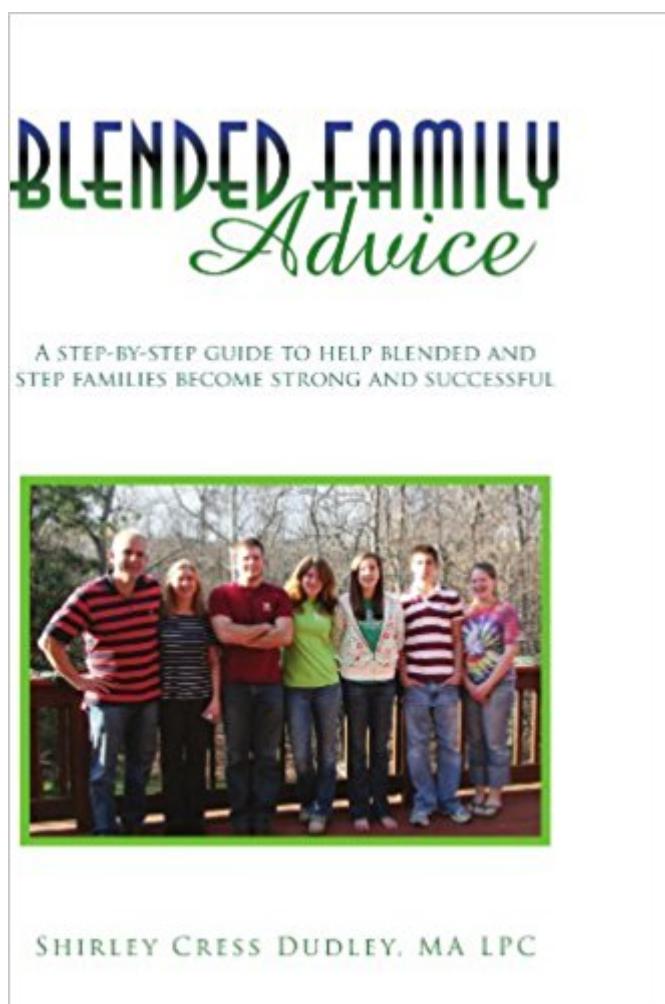


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# Blended Family Advice: A Step-by-step Guide To Help Blended And Step Families Become Strong And Successful



## **Synopsis**

Blended Family Advice is a step-by-step guide to help blended and step families navigate the rough areas in their marriages and families. The book focuses on three main areas: marriage, kids, and the outside world- composed of ex-spouses, parents and others. Here are some of the chapter topics:

The Center of the Blended Family: You and Your Spouse  
Developing Great Communication Skills  
Financial Discussions  
Parenting  
Creating a Sense of Unity in your Newly Blended Family  
How to treat Stepsiblings and Stepparents  
Visits to the <sup>Ã¢</sup>other <sup>Ã¢</sup> parent's house  
Maintaining a Positive Relationship with your Ex-Spouse  
Expectations: Managing Your Expectations and the Expectations of Others  
Keys to a Successful Marriage

Blended Family Advice also includes bonus reports on Successful Blended Family Holidays, Financial Planner for the Blended Family, House Hunting for the Blended Family and a Grandparents Guide to the Blended Family.

Blended families and step families will find this book to be a comprehensive resource and one that every stepfamily and blended family will need in their home.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Shirley Cress Dudley is a licensed professional counselor with a master's degree in marriage and family counseling, and a master's degree in education. She is the founder of The Blended and Step Family Resource Center. Shirley has spent years talking with individuals, couples and families. She is part of her own blended family with her husband Eric, two biological kids, 3 step kids and three dogs. Her passion is to help families and marriages become strong and successful, especially the blended and stepfamilies in the world. Shirley Cress Dudley is a conference speaker, workshop

leader and coach. For more information, you can contact Shirley Cress Dudley at [Shirley@BlendedFamilyAdvice.com](mailto:Shirley@BlendedFamilyAdvice.com)

I about 6 months ago my boyfriend and I decided to move in together and he has a ten year old son. I said yes because I knew it was the right decision for me, and I also knew I was going into uncharted waters when it comes to living with a ten year old boy who is not my biological child. Even though this book is intended for married couples, I have found it very helpful even for my situation. I just have to replace the term husband with boyfriend or whatever works. What I like about the book is that the theme/main idea is very clear and also the most important guidelines are also very clear and repeated throughout the chapters. I can pick it up and just read a few pages (which is sometimes all I have time for) and I always feel better afterwards. When starting a new journey, someone once told me, the best thing to do is find someone else who has done it, and ask them how they did it. Reading this book is like that for me. My only wish is that maybe a newer version could be written for couples who are not married or any type of co-parenting or co-habitating situation. I also really appreciate that this author left out religious beliefs from the advice. This way anyone who reads it can feel comfortable interpreting and applying the advice to whatever belief they practice if they choose.

this book doesn't address the intense problems faced by those who blended BEFORE they got the book....it does come from a person with a pretty ideal situation. Those of us who are inclined to buy the book would like a little more to compare with: stories and solutions from the battleground, please.

It was very helpful. Don't expect everyone to be accepting of the ideas at first. I think it works best with younger children. Older children can be their own book. I will read that when someone writes it.

This book offers good advice and encourages some deep discussions that need to be had when trying to blend a family. I wish I had read this book before my ex-fiance and I brought our children into the relationship. We went in blind and didn't have the tools and support to address issues when they came up. Ultimately, our relationship failed because of issues related to children because we didn't put the relationship first.

This is an extremely helpful resource for families wishing to blend successfully, that is, happily.

There is a lot of dialogue, some of which seems laborious to wade through at times, but I wouldn't overlook its importance: Many of the dialogues exemplify specific words, phrases, actions or situations that could really help each of us recognize, assess and modify our own behaviors.

The most straight forward advice I have read regarding how to create a successful blended family. I sent it to my parents as a gift so that they know how to succeed in their new role as step grandparents. Wish I'd read it earlier.

This is a very helpful book.

I reread this book often to remind myself of how lucky I am to have a blended family even if it's not always perfect!

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