Chore Chart by Age

Age-appropriate chores from toddler to teen, plus a weekly rotation for the household jobs everyone shares.

Name _____ Week of _____

Ages 2-3 (toddler)

- ☆ Put toys into a basket or bin after playing
  At this age the point is the habit, not the result. Expect to do it alongside them for months.
- ☆ Carry their own plastic plate or cup to the sink
- ☆ Put dirty clothes into the laundry basket
- ☆ Fill a pet's dry food bowl using a pre-measured scoop
  An adult measures; the child pours. Keep them away from water bowls that get carried.
- ☆ Wipe up their own spills with a cloth
- ☆ Put books back on a low shelf

Ages 4-5 (preschool)

- ☆ Make their own bed, loosely
  Pulling the duvet flat counts. Re-making it to adult standard teaches them it was never really their job.
- ☆ Set the table with napkins, cutlery and unbreakable cups
- ☆ Match clean socks into pairs
- ☆ Water indoor plants with a small jug
- ☆ Clear their own place at the table
- ☆ Sort recycling into the right bin
- ☆ Dust low surfaces and skirting boards with a dry cloth

Ages 6-8 (early school)

- ☆ Pack their own school bag the night before
  Keep a short list taped inside the bag for the first few weeks.
- ☆ Fold and put away their own clean laundry
- ☆ Load and unload the dishwasher, skipping knives
- ☆ Wipe down the bathroom sink and mirror
- ☆ Sweep floors and use a dustpan
- ☆ Feed and water pets without reminders
- ☆ Take the bins out to the kerb on collection day
- ☆ Tidy their bedroom floor before bed

Ages 9-11 (tween)

- ☆ Run a full load of laundry from sorting to folding
  Show them the machine once with the detergent already measured, then let them run it alone.
- ☆ Vacuum a whole room including under furniture edges
- ☆ Prepare a simple cold meal or packed lunch
- ☆ Clean the toilet with an age-safe bathroom cleaner
  Check the label and keep bleach-based products out of this age band.
- ☆ Change their own bed linen
- ☆ Rake leaves, weed a bed, or water the garden
- ☆ Help write the week's grocery list from what is missing
- ☆ Wash and dry dishes by hand

Ages 12-18 (teen)

- ☆ Cook one family dinner a week from start to clean-up
  Fixing the night in advance stops this quietly becoming optional.
- ☆ Mow the lawn or clear snow from paths
- ☆ Do the full grocery shop from a written list
- ☆ Clean a bathroom end to end, including the floor
- ☆ Mind younger siblings for a set, agreed period
- ☆ Wash the car inside and out
- ☆ Manage their own schedule, deadlines and appointments
- ☆ Iron their own clothes
- ☆ Take responsibility for one recurring household job of their choosing
  Letting them pick it is what turns a chore into a contribution.

Shared weekly rotation

- ☆ Kitchen deep clean: hob, microwave, fridge shelves
- ☆ Bathrooms: toilets, showers, mirrors, floors
- ☆ Floors: vacuum and mop every room
- ☆ Laundry: wash, dry, fold, put away
- ☆ Bins and recycling out
- ☆ Change all bed linen
- ☆ Grocery shop and restock staples
- ☆ Tidy shared living areas before the week starts

Setting the chart up

- ☆ Agree the list together before anything goes on the wall
  A chart written by one person and handed down is the one that gets ignored.
- ☆ Give each person no more than three daily chores
- ☆ Fix a time of day for daily chores, such as before screens or after dinner
- ☆ Put the chart where it is seen without being fetched
- ☆ Decide in advance what happens when a chore is skipped
- ☆ Decide whether chores are paid, and keep that answer consistent
- ☆ Re-cut the list every school year as ages and schedules change