

Thank you for expressing an interest in writing for *Stepparent Magazine*. The magazine welcomes articles from all levels of expertise ranging from professional writers to veteran stepparents.

Stepparent Magazine serves as a free, online magazine offering articles for stepparents regarding all walks of stepfamily life.

The magazine seeks a variety of articles that are written from male and female perspectives, so they appeal to both stepmums and stepdads. Articles written solely for stepmums or stepdads are also welcomed.

The magazine would like to receive articles that contain information and advice on:

- Stepfamily dynamics (e.g. moving in together, discipline)
- The ex (e.g. high-conflict relationships, friendship, co-parenting)
- Stepparent circumstances (e.g. being childless, dating widow/widower)
- Stepchildren (e.g. bonding, behaviour)
- Self-help tips (e.g. how to relieve stress, anxiety, seeking peace)
- Interviews (e.g. notable/veteran stepparents and adult stepchildren who can share experiences)
- Contact schedules (e.g. making it work for everyone, problems)
- Issues with contact (e.g. ex obstructing contact, moving away)
- Legal matters (e.g. court hearings, false allegations, parental alienation, divorce)
- Money matters (e.g. child maintenance, how to budget)
- Creativity/Things to do as a stepfamily (e.g. places to visit, baking, making things)
- Suggestions for further resources: (e.g. counselling)
- Seasonal Events (e.g. Christmas, school holidays, Mother's & Father's Day)
- Mum/dad/adult stepchildren perspectives (e.g. advice for stepparents)

Additionally, if you have personal experiences of living in a stepfamily, as a stepparent and/or as a stepchild, *Stepparent Magazine* welcomes first-hand articles from those who would like to share their own story.

Submission Guidelines & Article Content

1. Articles submitted to *Stepparent Magazine* must contain educational and proactive information/advice, e.g. tips, stories that readers can relate to and act upon.

2. Submissions to *Stepparent Magazine* do not guarantee publication of the article. The magazine reserves the right to decline an article for reasons such as the level of content and whether a similar article has already recently been published. The Author will be notified via email if their article has been selected.
3. As part of the initial contact made to *Stepparent Magazine*, evidence of previous work and where it has been published must be sent along with the submission.
4. *Stepparent Magazine* reserves the right to edit any articles submitted if it is felt that they improve the level of content e.g. grammatical errors, title alterations and paragraph structuring. If any significant changes to the article are suggested by the Editor then the Author will be notified prior to submission.
5. When submitting an article, please take into consideration the use of more 'general' terms to identify roles. For instance, not all stepparents are married, so the use of words like 'partner' or 'spouse' will apply to all readers, regardless of their marital status.
6. *Stepparent Magazine* requests that all articles have named individuals identities changed for privacy reasons (if applicable). Should submissions be made with this content, please add the line 'Names have been changed' to the bottom of the article.
7. *Stepparent Magazine* respects the privacy of all author's therefore, if you wish to remain anonymous, the magazine will be happy to publish your article under a pseudonym that you provide.
8. *Stepparent Magazine* will accept book excerpts on a particular subject matter, if it is beneficial to readers.
9. The 'theme' of an article may affect when it is published. For example, an article relating to 'days out with stepchildren' would be more effective to readers if it was published approaching the school holidays. Should this occur, the Author will be notified via email when their article will be published.
10. If author's wish to re-post their article, please acknowledge that it was also featured on the *Stepparent Magazine* website.
11. Please provide a headshot photo along with a small bio to include at the footer of the article.

12. *Stepparent Magazine* does not compensate for articles that are submitted for the website. However, the magazine will assist in the promotion of the Author's professional work e.g. books, services, under the 'Resources' page on the website. Furthermore, *Stepparent Magazine* will continue to acknowledge the Author and their business where possible, when re-publishing the article on social media sites, such as Facebook and Twitter. The Author may also have their photo and small bio published on the websites 'Contributing Writers' page, if they so wish.
13. Any self-promotion in the article itself will not be accepted. Please leave this information for the bio and the 'Resources' page on our website, if requested.
14. Article content should be between 1 - 2 pages of A4 (approx. a maximum of 1,200 words based on a standard font like Times New Roman, 12 point).
15. *Stepparent Magazine* suggests an eye-catching title followed by a more descriptive subtitle underneath (if required), to grab the reader's attention.
16. Any reference to titles e.g. books, should be in italics.
17. Avoid using formal 'clinical' language that readers may find difficult to understand or relate to.
18. Please refrain from using language that may be deemed aggressive/profane.
19. Authors are also welcome to join Stepparent Magazine's Support Group on the Facebook website. This group is not to be used for self-promotion; however *Stepparent Magazine* consents to general use and/or as a platform to conduct further research on stepparents e.g. surveys.

Should you wish to submit work for consideration or have any further queries please email: contact@stepparentmagazine.com

Corinne Foote
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