The Military Father: A Hands-on Guide For Deployed Dads (New Father Series)
Unfortunately, there are very few resources for military (and deployed civilian) fathers, who are looking for guidance on how to be in close touch with their families back home. The Military Father, written by the country’s leading authority on fathers and families, will fill that gap, providing deployed dads with everything they need to know to stay (or become) involved with and connected to their family regardless of the distance that separates them. Part I of this essential sourcebook covers pre-deployment and explores the profound effect a dad’s absence will have on his spouse, his children, and himself. It also provides extensive pre-deployment checklists and detailed tips aimed at preparing the dad and his family for separation and long-distance communication. Part II, During Deployment, explains how to stay involved and connected when you’re far away, and includes specific strategies and activities designed to help dads and their family remain close across time and distance. Part III, Coming Home, offers advice on post-deployment times from preparing to come home and surmounting the challenges of returning to military or civilian life. In addition, the book includes a chapter on how dads can support a spouse when she’s the one being deployed, and a comprehensive listing of resources available to soldiers and their families. Flavored with the author’s trademark wit, warmth, and intelligence, this guide combines a wealth of knowledge from experts, scientific studies, and interviews with scores of military fathers and their families. The Military Father includes cartoons that complement the text, solicited from deployed military or civilian fathers and family members, ranging from those on active duty to veterans.

**Book Information**

Series: New Father Series

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Customer Reviews

This book is Brott's attempt to write an all-things-to-all-servicemembers guide to deployment, and he does a fair job. The book is arranged chronologically with respect to a deployment timeline, first pre-deployment, then during, then post-deployment, and broken down further to address issues of the service member, the spouse, and the children. He includes lists of resources available to family members and his appendix includes an exceedingly helpful pre-deployment checklist. This book also addresses the issues of Reservists and civilian contractors. Anyone facing their first deployment (with or without children) would benefit from reading this book. The writing and style is typical Brott, with corny jokes and copious entreaties for the service member to buy his wife flowers. The book has lots of cartoons from military contributors which add to its appeal and a fair number of boxed paragraphs which are generally helpful but often are unfortunately placed with regard to the rest of the book's layout, in that you often have to stop at a bad spot to read them or you have to remember to return to them after you've finished the segment of the book you're currently reading. There are a few drawbacks to this book. The biggest issue I see, as a Navy spouse, is that naval deployments are a lot different from land-based deployments, which this book primarily focuses on. Space is at such a premium on naval vessels that your sailor will probably not have room to store all the art projects or baby outfits Brott suggests you send to him. Also, communications aboard ship are considerably different.

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