

Montessori Activity: Potty Basket for Independence



In Montessori, even potty training is seen as an opportunity for independence and self-care. A potty basket helps toddlers feel prepared, confident, and capable by giving them the tools they need to take care of themselves. This simple setup encourages children to recognize their needs and handle them with pride.

What You'll Need:

- Small basket or bin placed near the potty
- 2-3 pairs of training underwear or cotton underwear
- 1-2 pairs of soft, elastic-waist pants (easy for toddlers to pull up and down)
- Small pack of wipes in a child-friendly container
- Washcloth or small towel for hands/clean-up
- A small laminated picture card showing "steps" (pants down → potty → wipe → flush → wash hands)



Steps for the Child:

1. Go to the potty basket when it's time to try.
2. Choose underwear or pants if a change is needed.
3. Follow the picture card steps to complete the potty routine.
4. Place soiled clothes in a designated laundry bag.
5. Wash hands when finished.

Learning Benefits:

- Builds independence and confidence in self-care routines
- Strengthens sequencing and memory skills through visual cues
- Encourages respect for the environment by keeping space tidy
- Promotes responsibility by letting the child handle clothing changes

✨ *Montessori Tip:* Keep the basket uncluttered and restock it together with your child so they feel ownership of the process. Celebrate effort, not perfection—this is all about building independence, one step at a time.

