

# “Mother Knows Nest”

A documentary style "reality" show that asks:  
What happens when Mom visits her daughter's first home away from home?

## Overview

For each show, we choose a mother and daughter to follow for one week. The daughter is a young adult about to set up her first home, far from where she grew up. Mom is about to visit her daughter's nest, and with it the life she is about to choose. Will Mom approve? Be shocked? Happy and relieved? Or will she come down hard on her daughter's decisions? We watch as mother and daughter together face this most important change in their relationship, and struggle to redefine themselves in the setting of the new Nest.

Together, they face two challenges. The first is to collaborate on a **real-life project** like moving in, decorating, hosting a dinner party, or getting ready for job interviews. We see their relationship in action: the ways the daughter (“Let’s serve sushi”) has grown apart from her mom (“You mean *raw fish*?!”) and the ways they are cut from the same stock (“You folded the napkins *just* like I taught you!”).

The second is an **emotional** challenge: the mother is concerned: “I don’t like that she’s working at a *bar*.” “I’m not sure about this new boyfriend.” “She’s sharing an apartment with total *strangers*?” “Is that part of New York safe after dark?” Mom needs to know whether her girl is safe, or needs a motherly intervention. Interviews with the mom reveal this underlying tension; interviews with the daughter may show that she senses her mother’s fears, or that she’s completely in the dark about what her mom is thinking.

By watching the pair work through both challenges, the practical and the emotional, we see the real feelings that come up during this milestone in their mother-daughter relationship.

## Audience and Appeal

With a winning combination of practical tasks (a la “Trading Spaces”) and touchy-feely emotions (“Oprah”) “Mother Knows Nest” will appeal to women of all ages. Every daughter wants her mother to be proud of her and the choices she makes: her home, her job, her friends, all the things that make up her life’s path. And each mother wants her daughter to be happy and fulfilled, though seeing her little girl grow up and leave the nest is hard. Women of all ages will be drawn to the show to see how other people handle this important -- sometimes rocky, sometimes touching-- part of life.

## Format

The show is a combination of documentary footage of the mother and daughter in action, intercut with interviews. The interviews flesh out the pair’s expectations before the week, their feelings during it, and reflections after it’s over (think “Blind Date”). Tying it all together is commentary from our **mother-daughter hosting team**.

## The Hosts

This duo brings two generations worth of perspective, and spans both sides of the mother-daughter connection. With a freeform, chatty style (like “The View”), their commentary will be dynamic and thought-provoking. Being a mother and daughter themselves, each will have her own opinions on the emotional truths beneath the surface. They will make observations, exchange wisecracks, share insights, and tease what’s coming up next on the show.

## Summary

**“Mother Knows Nest” explores the intensity of mother-daughter interactions with humor, insight, honesty and affection.**