Pip's 24 nights

Every morning you tidy up after Pip, colour in that night's star.



1
Pip moves in
Pick up Pip's things and pack them back into his suitcase.

2
Flour footprints
Sweep or wipe the flour footprints off the counter.

3
Toilet-paper snow
Roll the toilet paper back up so it can still be used.

4
The sock castle
Take the sock castle down.

5
The Lego tower
Take Pip's tower apart.

6
Pip overslept
Fold the blankets and straighten the cushions around sleepy Pip.

7
Shark rescue
Rescue Pip and put the bath toys back in their basket.

8
Moustache makeover
Take the moustaches off the photos and dust the frames.

9
The shoe train
Untie the laces and unhook the shoe train.

10
The lid tower
Take the lid tower down.

11
Pip wrapped everything
Unwrap everything, fold the paper and put it in the recycling.

12
The towel ski slope
Take the ski slope down.

13
Pip in jail
Let Pip out and put the dish rack back.

14
Pip's cushion fort
Put the cushions back on the sofa and fold the blanket.

15
Asleep in a mug
Lift Pip out gently and put the mug in the dishwasher.

16
Pip rides the vacuum
Lift Pip off and vacuum one room.

17
Pip's washing line
Take down the washing line and the pegs.

18
Pip's card workshop
Put the crayons and paper away.

19
The dust-bunny race
Collect the pompoms, then dust the shelves and under the sofa.

20
Pip waters the plants
Water all the plants.

21
Gingerbread baker
Wipe the flour off the table and the tray.

22
The toy rainbow
Pick the toy rainbow up off the rug.

23
Pip's treasure hunt
Put all of Pip's clue notes in the recycling.

24
Goodbye, Pip
Wash Pip's porridge bowl and spoon.

Christmas Eve

Scan to add Pip to your household, and let MatePoints keep the points.
matepoints.app, free to start



Psst! For grown-ups only.

How to set up every night, and what you need. Keep this page away from the children.



1 Pip moves in — about 10 min

Tape a small paper door to the skirting board. Put Pip next to it with a matchbox suitcase that has burst open, and scatter a few of his things around it: buttons, cotton-wool snowballs, a tiny sock.

You need: Paper or card for a little door, tape, an empty matchbox (no matches), buttons or cotton-wool balls

2 Flour footprints — about 3 min

Sprinkle a tablespoon of flour on the kitchen counter next to the flour bag. Press Pip's clogs (or a fingertip) into it to make a trail of tiny footprints to the cookie jar, and sit Pip there with flour on his nose.

You need: A tablespoon of flour

3 Toilet-paper snow — about 5 min

Drape half a roll of toilet paper over a houseplant or the Christmas tree like snow. Sit Pip on top, holding the roll.

You need: A roll of toilet paper

4 The sock castle — about 5 min

Empty the sock drawer onto a bed and pile the socks into a castle. Put Pip on top like a king.

You need: The sock drawer

5 The Lego tower — about 5 min

Build a wobbly tower from a mix of every Lego set on a table, and sit Pip at the top.

You need: Lego or other building bricks

6 Pip overslept — about 1 min

Forgot tonight? Perfect. Tuck Pip into a mitten or a woolly hat on the sofa with a blanket half off him.

You need: A mitten or a woolly hat

7 Shark rescue — about 5 min

Fill a dry, empty bathtub with bath toys and one toy shark. Hang Pip by his mittens from the towel rail above it.

You need: Bath toys, a toy shark

8 Moustache makeover — about 5 min

Cut little moustaches out of sticky notes and stick them on the family photos. Leave Pip holding one more.

You need: Sticky notes, scissors (grown-ups)

9 The shoe train — about 5 min

Line up all the shoes in the hallway in one long train, loosely tie a few laces together, and put Pip in the front shoe as the driver.

You need: The family's shoes

10 The lid tower — about 5 min

Stack every plastic food box and lid from the cupboard into a tower on the kitchen table, all mismatched. Pip sits on top.

You need: Plastic food boxes and lids

11 Pip wrapped everything — about 10 min

Wrap a few everyday things in newspaper or old gift paper: the TV remote, a slipper, a banana. Leave Pip with the tape.

You need: Newspaper or used gift paper, tape

12 The towel ski slope — about 5 min

Pile clean towels from the arm of the sofa down to the floor like a ski slope. Put Pip at the bottom on two lolly sticks.

You need: Clean towels, two lolly sticks

13 Pip in jail — about 3 min

Turn the dish rack upside down over Pip like a cell. Leave a note from the family saying his bail is one kind job.

You need: A dish rack

14 Pip's cushion fort — about 5 min

Build a small fort from the sofa cushions on the floor and drape a blanket over the top. Put Pip in the doorway with a small flashlight.

You need: The sofa cushions, a blanket, a small flashlight

15 Asleep in a mug — about 1 min

Forgot again? Sit Pip in a big empty mug on the breakfast table, asleep.

You need: A big empty mug

16 Pip rides the vacuum — about 2 min

Sit Pip on the vacuum cleaner (or the robot vacuum) as if he is riding it. It stays switched off.

You need: The vacuum cleaner

17 Pip's washing line — about 10 min

Tie a string between two chairs and peg socks and small clothes along it. Put Pip at the end with a peg in his hand.

You need: String, clothes pegs, socks and small clothes

18 Pip's card workshop — about 5 min

Put out paper, crayons and a half-made Christmas card at the table, with Pip sitting in the middle of it.

You need: Paper, crayons or pens

19 The dust-bunny race — about 5 min

Line up grey pompoms or balls of wool in front of the sofa like racing dust bunnies. Pip stands at the finish line as the referee.

You need: Grey pompoms or balls of wool

20 Pip waters the plants — about 1 min

Easy night. Stand Pip by a houseplant with a thimble or a bottle cap as his watering can.

You need: A thimble or a bottle cap

21 Gingerbread baker — about 5 min

Bake gingerbread together today, or just leave the cutters, a rolling pin and a little flour on a baking tray with Pip in the middle.

You need: Gingerbread cutters, a baking tray

22 The toy rainbow — about 10 min

Lay the toys out across the rug in rows by colour, like a rainbow. Pip sits at the end with the empty toy boxes.

You need: The toys

23 Pip's treasure hunt — about 15 min

Hide 4 or 5 clue notes at chore spots: in the unmade bed, by the bin, in the shoe rack, in the dishwasher. Each clue names a small job and where the next clue is. The last one leads to Pip and a small treat. Tonight, leave a small spoonful of rice porridge with a knob of butter out for Pip.

You need: Paper for clues, a small treat, a spoonful of rice porridge for tonight

24 Goodbye, Pip — about 10 min

Throw away last night's porridge before the children wake up and leave the empty bowl with the spoon in it. Put Pip by his little door with his matchbox suitcase packed, and a goodbye letter with the family's points from the countdown.

You need: The porridge bowl, a goodbye letter

Thank you for helping me tidy up. Pip