Grandparents Stories
Edition

Some stories only come out when someone asks the right question at the right table. This deck is built for that moment.

Inside this sample: 12 story-starting cards drawn from a planned 60-card deck, plus a Keepsake Page to write down the answers worth keeping forever.

HOW TO USE THIS DECK

1. Place the stack face-down in the middle of the dinner table.
2. Take turns drawing a card and reading it aloud to a grandparent.
3. Let the story breathe — ask one follow-up, then just listen.
4. After dinner, pick the story you never want to lose and record it on a Keepsake Page (included, p. 5). One page per story.
5. Keep finished Keepsake Pages in a binder — over time they become a family story book in your grandparents' own words.

FOUR STORY THEMES IN THIS SAMPLE

Childhood • First Jobs • How They Met / Early Marriage • Lessons Learned

PRINTING: Print pages 2–4 on card stock, cut along the dashed guides (4 cards per page).
Print as many copies of page 5 (Keepsake Page) as you need — one per story.
Sample edition — 12 of 60 planned cards. For family use.

CHILDHOOD

01

What did your childhood home smell like, sound like, and feel like on an ordinary evening — and who was usually in the kitchen?

Ask one follow-up. Then just listen.
Record the best stories on a Keepsake Page.

CHILDHOOD

02

Tell us about a time you got in trouble as a kid. What did you do, who caught you, and what happened next?

Ask one follow-up. Then just listen.
Record the best stories on a Keepsake Page.

CHILDHOOD

03

Who was your best friend growing up? Tell us about one adventure or ordinary day together that you still remember clearly.

Ask one follow-up. Then just listen.
Record the best stories on a Keepsake Page.

FIRST JOBS

04

What was your very first paid job? How much did you earn, what was the hardest part, and what did you spend your first paycheck on?

Ask one follow-up. Then just listen.
Record the best stories on a Keepsake Page.

FIRST JOBS

05

Tell us about a boss, teacher, or coworker who changed how you work. What did they say or do that stuck with you?

Ask one follow-up. Then just listen.
Record the best stories on a Keepsake Page.

FIRST JOBS

06

What job did you dream of as a teenager, and how did real life turn out differently — or surprisingly the same?

Ask one follow-up. Then just listen.
Record the best stories on a Keepsake Page.

HOW THEY MET / EARLY MARRIAGE

07

Walk us through the day you first met. Where were you, what did you notice first, and what did you think about on the way home?

Ask one follow-up. Then just listen.
Record the best stories on a Keepsake Page.

HOW THEY MET / EARLY MARRIAGE

08

Tell us about your wedding day — not the perfect version, the real one. What went wrong, what made you laugh, and what moment do you still picture?

Ask one follow-up. Then just listen.
Record the best stories on a Keepsake Page.

HOW THEY MET / EARLY MARRIAGE

09

What was your first home together like? Describe the rooms, the neighbors, and one meal you ate there again and again.

Ask one follow-up. Then just listen.
Record the best stories on a Keepsake Page.

LESSONS LEARNED / ADVICE

10

What is one hard season your family went through, and what helped you get through it day by day?

Ask one follow-up. Then just listen.
Record the best stories on a Keepsake Page.

LESSONS LEARNED / ADVICE

11

If you could sit down with yourself at 20, what would you tell that person not to worry about — and what would you tell them to take more seriously?

Ask one follow-up. Then just listen.
Record the best stories on a Keepsake Page.

LESSONS LEARNED / ADVICE

12

What is something simple — a habit, a saying, or a way of treating people — that you hope our family keeps doing long after you?

Ask one follow-up. Then just listen.
Record the best stories on a Keepsake Page.

Keepsake Page

Write it down tonight, while the story is still fresh. One story per page.

STORY TITLE: _____

STORYTELLER: _____

DATE TOLD: _____

CARD THAT STARTED IT: _____

THE STORY — IN THEIR WORDS:

Tip: Capture exact phrases and little details — the street name, the song, the price of things then.

File finished pages in a binder to build your family's story book, one dinner at a time.