

Some ways that Martin communicates with us

When this is happening...

Martin's trying to do something - even an everyday thing and he's having trouble

Martin does this...

Begins to get cross or angry. Says things or starts to push things away

We think that it means...

He's confused about what he's supposed to be doing
OR
He's trying to do something and it's not working

And we should...

Try giving Martin a gentle reminder about what's happening...what to do next
Offer to do the thing together. Try something different

Anytime you notice

Martin is looking a little down or sad

He's having a hard time with something. Thinking about something unpleasant

Ask him to sing you a song, or better yet, sing a song with him to help cheer him

Anytime

Martin tell you that you don't like him

Martin just wants some positive attention and is feeling a little down

Reassure him that you care about him. Spend a bit of time with him

Martin has asked you to do something and because you are busy you can't get to it right away

Gets angry. Starts to get loud

He wants or feels that he needs your assistance
RIGHT NOW

Reassure him that you haven't forgotten him and that you will help him as soon as you can

Anytime

Asks for several things all at once or asks for things over and over again

Martin is confused (or might have had a seizure). He needs a bit more attention

Martin likely just had a seizure or is likely going to have one very soon

Help get Martin something to do...to focus on. If you can't spend time with him right away tell him a specific time that you can. Martin can remember specific times of the day pretty well