

What to pack in your hospital bag

PREGNANCY: RESOURCES FOR PREGNANT MOM

ARTICLE

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Time to think about what to pack for your new baby—including that special going-home outfit—and for yourself, as well as what you might need for breastfeeding.





My hospital bag checklist: What to pack for your baby

- Check what's available Ask beforehand about which supplies, if any, your hospital provides for newborns. Depending on the answer, you may need...
- 1-2 packs of diapers Make sure you have enough supplies for the first couple of days.
- Baby wipes and cotton balls Useful during diaper-changing and for quickly wiping up any mess.
- 2-3 bodysuits and 2-3 t-shirts (depending on the weather and season) Newborns can need changing frequently so pack plenty of spares. You may also want to take a special, photo-friendly outfit for coming home.
- Hat To protect your baby's head when you're leaving the hospital.
- **Socks** Essential for keeping baby's feet warm.
- **Baby blanket** You may want to bring a special blanket to wrap your baby in after birth or for the journey home.
- **Baby car seat** Remember to bring this for the trip home from the hospital it's mandatory in many countries.

Sources

US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Women's Health. Your guide to breastfeeding. January 2011.