

stroller TRAFFIC



July, 2011

... checklist

gear + equipment

Stocking up for a new baby can be overwhelming. The StrollerTraffic Checklist makes things easier with an authoritative list of everything you need, from diapering and feeding essentials to layette and bath time must-haves.

ITEM	RECOMMENDED BRANDS	TIPS
Stroller	Bugaboo, UPPAbaby, Britax, Baby Jogger, phil&teds, Orbit	Consider getting two: a buggy for day-to-day strolls and an umbrella for travel.
Footmuff	7 A.M. enfant or Toastie Toddler for winter; Bundleme Lite for spring.	Bugaboo footmuff does not fit many umbrella strollers.
Infant car seat	Britax Chaperone, Cybex Aton	Kiddopotumus Cradler and Prop-O Head Rest are great neck supports for long trips.
Toddler car seat	Britax Marathon 70	Be sure any car seat accessories you buy have been crash-tested.
Swing	Fisher Price Rainforest or Papasan Cradle	Running the Papasan's mobile, music and toy tray all at once can totally over stimulate baby.
Bouncy seat	BabyBjörn Balance, Combi Pod	Feed babies with acid reflux in the bouncy.
Pack n' Play	Graco, BabyBjörn Travel Crib Light	Practice assembly well before naptime.
Carrier	Lillebaby Everywear, Ergo Baby, Boba G2, Moby Wrap	Don't throw out the Ergo how-to DVD. You'll need it.
Car mirror	BRICA Baby In Sight	Adhesive tape loses its stickiness after a while, so keep some extra two-sided tape in the car.
Tummy Time mat	Skip Hop Activity Gym; Tiny Love – Gymini Musical Kick & Discover	Gymini play mat toys double as stroller toys.
Exersaucer	Evenflo SmartSteps	Get Switcharoos when attention span dims.
Car window shade	UPPAbaby Easy-Fit Sunshade	Keep an extra on hand for when the suction cups lose their suction.

layette



ITEM	RECOMMENDED BRANDS	TIPS
Lovie/Blanky	Angel Dear, Little Giraffe	Have a few, and use them in rotation so they all have the same feel.
Side-snap undershirts (5)	Under the Nile	Essential until the umbilical cord falls off.
Onesies (5)	Petit Bateau, Carter's	Super-thin cotton ones are best for layering.
Footies (5)	Kissy Kissy, Kicky Pants	The ones that button-up the front are easiest.
2-piece outfits (3)	giggle better basics	Get some with feet and some without.
One-piece rompers (3)	kate quinn organics	Essential for the crawling stage.
Sweaters (2)	babyGap	Great item for monogramming!
Sun hats + skull caps (3)	Zutano	Lots of newborn outfits come with caps.
Socks (5)	babyGap, Trumpette, blindmice	Most other brands don't stay on very well.
Crib shoes	Robeez, New Balance	Totally unnecessary, but fun.
Receiving blankets (5)	Little Giraffe, aden+anais, SwaddleDesigns	If you want cashmere, make sure it's machine-washable. Your baby will spit up on the blanket every time.
Sleep gowns (3)	aden+anais, Kissy Kissy	The ones that snap-up the front are easier to manage than the ones that slip over the baby's head.
Swaddling blankets (3)	SwaddleMe, aden + anais	Cotton for summer, fleece for winter.
Sleep sacks (3)	aden+anais, Halo	Designer versions are cute, but you will be the only one to ever see them.
Detergent	Seventh Generation, Method, Dapple	Use infant stain remover on YOUR clothes, too. Great for shoulder spit-ups.

feeding



ITEM	RECOMMENDED BRANDS	TIPS
Bottles	Dr. Brown's, BornFree, Avent, Playtex Drop-Ins	Keep a comfy floor mat in front of the sink; you'll be standing there a LOT to wash bottles.
Bottle warmer	Avent, Beaba Bib'Expresso	Getting baby used to tepid (rather than warm) bottles will make the transition to cold milk easier.
Bottle sterilizer	Avent	You can also boil water on the stove.
Sterilizer bags	Medela	Some moms skip the sterilizer altogether and just use the bags.
Dishwasher basket	Prince Lionheart	Loose straws from sippy cups can fall out of the basket and wreck your dishwasher.
Bottle drying rack	Skip-Hop Splash, Boon Grass	Skip Hop's comes with a great bottle brush.
Burp cloths	Gerber's organic cloth diapers	You'll need more than you think (20, maybe?).
Bibs	aden+anais burpy bibs for bottles; Bumpkins for purees and solids	The sweet monogrammed ones that tie in back are cute but totally useless.
Electric pump + accessories	Hygeia	It's not a bad idea to have a manual pump in case of electricity outages.
Nursing pads	Lansinoh, Bambooies	Beware of thick pads that show through clothes.
Nursing gel patches	Soothies	Use them proactively.
Nursing cream	Earth Mama Angel Baby	Lansinoh stains like crazy.
Nursing pillow	My Brest Friend	Get an extra cover for accidents.
Nursing cover	Bebe au Lait	Even open-minded friends appreciate the discretion.
Food processor	Beaba Babycook, Kidco Food Mill	Freeze extra baby food in a Tupperware ice cube tray with cover.
Sippy cups	Nuby, The Safe Sippy, Playtex	Get baby used to drinking both water and milk from the sippy as soon as you introduce it.
Toddler utensils	OXO Tot, Boon ModWare	Skip the fork/spoon sets, as you'll need way more spoons than forks.
High chair	Peg Perego, Svan, Chicco, Anka	The stroller is a great transitional place to feed baby (before the high chair).

diapering



ITEM	RECOMMENDED BRANDS	TIPS
Diaper bag	Ju Ju Be, petunia pickle bottom, Go GaGa, Skip Hop, timi + leslie	Get a cheap-o one for rainy days.
Diapers	Seventh Generation, Huggies Overnites, Nature Babycare	Order in bulk from diapers.com .
Unscented, sensitive wipes	Seventh Generation; Huggies are thick; Pampers are soft	Skip the wipes warmer; not necessary and your baby will wince at chilly wipes on the go.
Wipes travel case	Skip Hop	You can also just keep wipes in a Ziploc bag.
Scented diaper sacks	Sassy	It's only fair to use these when tossing diapers in public.
Disposable changing pads	Huggies, Pee Wee Pads	Reuse if not "soiled."
Diaper trash pail	Diaper Dekor, Diaper Genie II Elite, Munchkin Arm&Hammer	Always lock it shut, as there is a sharp razor mechanism inside for cutting the bags.
Travel changing pad	patemm, Skip Hop Pronto	Many diaper bags come with a changing pad.
Diaper cream	Aquaphor or Episencial for prevention; Triple Paste for rashes	Get a tub for the changing table, and a tube for the diaper bag. Warning: Triple Paste stains clothes.
Changing pad cover	Naturepedic organic cotton	Your baby will spend a lot of naked time on the changing table, so it's one place where organic cotton makes sense.

bathing



ITEM	RECOMMENDED BRANDS	TIPS
Infant bath tub	Fisher Price Aquarium, Flexibath, Puj, Summer Infant	Gets insanely slippery with baby oil.
Shampoo, body wash, lotion	Episencial, California Baby	Might stain your washcloths.
Brush and comb	Peek-a-Boo, Skip Hop	Plastic comb teeth break easily (choking hazard).
Washcloths	Playskool, Kate Quinn Organic	Fluffy terry washcloths are too thick for tiny baby parts.
Hooded towels	Pottery Barn Kids, 3 Sprouts, aden +anais	You'll get tons of these as gifts.
Bath toys	Boon	Squirter toys collect water and grow mold.
Drying rack for bath toys	One Step Ahead Organizer Tray	Toy nets get slimy.

sleeping



ITEM	RECOMMENDED BRANDS	TIPS
Pacifier	Mam, Nuk, Natursutten	Buy one of several brands until you know which one baby likes.
Sheet saver	TL Care	Doubles as a liner for the Bugaboo bassinet.
Crib sheets	Super Natural Baby	Get two sets.
Swaddling blankets	Swaddle Designs, SwaddleMe, aden + anais	When it comes time to “break the swaddle,” try one arm at a time.
Mattress Pad cover	TL Care	Waterproof is a must.
Bassinet	Ninna Nanna	The Bugaboo bassinet can double as a real bassinet.
Snuggle Nest, if not using a bassinet	Supreme	When baby starts squirming out, it’s time to retire the Snuggle Nest.
Audio monitor	Graco Digital, Summer Infant, Philips Avent	Light sleepers may find even the lowest volume setting too disruptive.
Night light	Cloud B’s Twilight Turtle; OXO Candela	Portable night lights are great for middle-of-the-night feedings.
Video monitor	Summer Infant, Safety 1st High-Def, First Years Home and Away, MobiCam	If you think you’ll obsess and watch baby all night, don’t use the video monitor until baby starts rolling over.
Mesh bumper	Breathable Baby	Not as comfy-cozy as traditional bumpers, but eliminates the suffocation fears.