# Infant Safe Sleep Checklist

This Infant Safe Sleep Checklist is a tool we offer to assist you in creating a safe and loving environment for your baby.

Please review this entire checklist to ensure that you are providing a Safe Sleep environment for your infant.

























# Infant Safe Sleep Checklist - Tips

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Please review all of these tips to ensure that you are providing a Safe Sleep environment for your infant.

# 3 NEVER SLEEP WITH YOUR BABY

SLEEPING WITH YOUR BABY INCREASES RISK OF SUIDS: Never sleep with your baby, you must always be awake when holding your baby.

**SKIN-TO-SKIN SOOTHING:** This bonding technique can help calm your baby and give them a sense of security before laying them down in their crib or bassinet.

## **ANIMAL-FREE SLEEP ENVIRONMENT:**

Make sure there are no animals in the room, especially cats, rabbits, lizards, turtles, or dogs. This will reduce the risk of accidental incidents.

## DON'T LET YOUR BABY GET OVERHEATED

## **RESERVE HATS FOR OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES:**

Hats can increase risk of overheating especially during sleep time.

**USE BREATHABLE BLANKETS:** Cotton or linen better regulates your baby's body temperature. Avoid fleece, plush or other items that may cause overheating.

**FOLLOW THE LAYERING RULE:** Dress your baby in clothing appropriate for the room temperature. Try one more layer than you would wear. Use a cotton safe sleep sack.

**RECOGNIZE SIGNS OF OVERHEATING:** If you notice sweating, flushing, or chest is hot to the touch, adjust clothing or bedding.

## PUT YOUR BABY ON THEIR BACK FOR ALL NAPS AND AT NIGHT

## SWADDLE WITH AN UNWEIGHTED SLEEP SACK:

This alternative provides a sense of security without the use of loose blankets to minimize the risk of accidental face covering.

**KNOW WHEN TO STOP SWADDLING:** Once your baby begins to turn over on their stomach, around 3 months. This helps your baby have the freedom to move and explore their sleep space safely.

**HELP POSITION YOUR BABY:** Lay your baby on their back, and if your baby tends to favor one side, gently turn their head in that direction.

## 4 INSTEAD OF BED SHARING, ROOM SHARE WITH YOUR BABY

## **SHARE YOUR BEDROOM WITH YOUR BABY:**

Avoid placing crib or bassinet in a seperate room. Your baby should sleep in their crib or bassinet, located next to your bed.

#### PLACE BABY'S CRIB NEXT TO YOUR BED:

Ensure your baby sleeps in a CPSC-approved crib or bassinet placed next to your bed to ensure a safe sleep environment for your baby.

### **SHARE NIGHTTIME DUTIES:**

If possible, share nighttime duties with a partner, family member, friend, or trusted person to ensure a safe sleep environment for your baby.

# TRY GIVING YOUR BABY A PACIFIER

AT NAP AND BEDTIME

**ESTABLISH BREASTFEEDING FIRST:** Learn to recognize your baby's hunger cues before introducing a pacifier and never use as a substitute for feeding your baby when they're hungry.

**USE BABY'S FINGER AS A PACIFIER:** Wash your hands and use your baby's finger as a pacifier to provide comfort and soothing. This supports the natural instinct to suckle and safe sleep practices.

**AVOID PACIFIER CLIPS DURING SLEEP:** Clips can pose a potential choking hazard if they detach during sleep, so it's safer to avoid them altogether during sleep times.

## USE A FIRM, FLAT SLEEP SURFACE

### **USE CPSC INFANT APPROVED SAFE SLEEP**

**PRODUCTS:** Ensure that the sleep surface, including cribs, bassinets, and play yards, meet the safety standards set by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

## NO PRODUCT CAN PREVENT SUDDEN UNEXPECTED INFANT DEATH SYNDROME

**(SUIDS):** A safe sleep environment involves a combination of practices. Use of approved products is just one part.

## **AVOID INAPPROPRIATE SLEEP SURFACES:**

Couches, armchairs, car seats, or swings pose a risk of accidental suffocation or other hazards.

# **5** KEEP SOFT OBJECTS AND LOOSE BEDDING OUT OF YOUR BABY'S SLEEP AREA

## **REMOVE EVERYTHING BUT ESSENTIAL ITEMS:**

Keep your baby's sleep area free of soft objects and loose bedding. Remove everything except your baby and a fitted sheet.

## **DESIGNATE OTHER ITEMS FOR AWAKE TIME:**

Keep all other items, such as toys, blankets, and pillows, outside the crib. Designate these items for awake time when they can be supervised.

**AVOID BABY BUMPERS:** No product can prevent SUIDS. Baby bumpers should be avoided as they pose a potential risk to your baby's safety.

## YOU ARE THE GATEKEEPER OF YOUR BABIES HEALTH - STAY SUBSTANCE FREE

## **SMOKE OUTSIDE AWAY FROM YOUR BABY:**

Wash hands, brush teeth, and change clothes to reduce secondhand exposure.

## **AVOID MARIJUANA WHEN WITH YOUR**

**BABY:** This poses danger to your baby's health. Take proactive steps to minimize secondhand exposure.

**ENSURE A SOBER ADULT IS PRESENT:** A sober adult can help watch your baby to prevent harm if you use substances at any time.

## **SEEK SUPPORT GUIDANCE FROM A TRUSTED**

**PROVIDER:** Confide in a trusted, nonjudgmental care provider who can offer guidance and support to maintain sobriety.







