

WellPreparedMommy.com recommends these tips when traveling with your baby/toddler. Start with a list, focusing on items you need:

- Airline tickets/confirmation, if flying
- Passports, if leaving the country
- Identification
- Insurance cards
- Baby's birth certificate/shot record
- Clothes - Determine how many outfits you'll need by how many days you'll be at your destination. If baby generally only wears one outfit per day, pack one per day for vacation - plus one extra for your entire stay. Consider outfits for special dinners or events as separate, and try to choose outfits for which your child can wear the same pair of shoes.
- Bibs - Two or three that can be wiped off easily and reused.
- Bottles/sippy cups
- Baby/toddler utensils
- Travel-sized containers of laundry detergent and dish soap
- Baby's bedding - Many hotels offer cribs, but call ahead in case you need to reserve it in advance. If you must take baby's bedding with you, consider lightweight options (e.g., a portable crib or play yard). Don't forget sheets and blankets. If you're flying, make sure you put the crib/play yard in a durable travel bag.
- A diaper bag to keep with you that includes:
 - Diapers - If you can buy the bulk of these, along with wipes and food, at your destination, taking with you enough for the trip. Pack one for every two to three hours.
 - Wipes
 - Food
 - Change of clothes for you and baby
 - Medications
 - Plastic bags - These are handy in case you have messy clothes/diapers you need to contain.
 - Hand sanitizer
- Stroller
- Car seat - If you're flying and renting a car at your destination, you might consider contacting the rental company about whether they loan car seats. If you take your own, make sure it's packed in a durable travel bag. Check with your airline ahead of time; some airlines don't count your child's car seat as one of your checked bags.
- Entertainment - Think outside of the "toy box." Items to entertain your little one don't have to be toys and books, although these are always great. Items that are just new to your child, as long as they're safe, can also do the trick (e.g., a deck of cards, a set of measuring spoons).
- Child's favorite toy or book, if it's small and light enough to pack

Some other considerations when traveling:

- If your toddler is newly potty trained, have her wear training pants (e.g., Pull-Ups) for the trip there and home. That way, if you can't make it to a rest area or the lavatory in time, it's just a quick change.
- If you're driving, have your car checked ahead of time to make sure it's in good condition. Also make sure you have a spare tire, jumper cables and a flashlight. Pack an extra blanket and some bottles of water.
- Also, if you're driving with another adult, sit in the backseat with your child for part of the trip; it will help make entertaining and feeding a little easier. You might also consider placing your child's car seat in the center of the back seat or behind the driver's seat. This will make passing food, toys, etc. to your child easier.
- If you can, keep a space in the car clean to use as a changing table since some restrooms don't have changing tables.
- If you're staying at a hotel or home that is not child-proofed, you may wish to take along some outlet covers.