

New Baby Budget

A cost guide of items and necessities for baby's first year

Congratulations on your pregnancy! This guide will help you figure out the costs of items you'll need for baby's first year. Your individual budget will play a part in how the numbers below add up (as well as what you receive as gifts or hand-me-downs). You'll also want to make the best decisions for your personal family plans; if you hope to have many children, it may be wise to invest in better quality items now, rather than having to replace things down the road.

Item	Approximate Cost Range
Crib and Mattress	\$250 – 500 +
Car Seat	\$120 - 250
Stroller	\$100 – 500
Baby Carrier	\$40 – 140
High Chair	\$60 – 150 +
Diaper Bag	\$40 – 60
Baby Gate	\$30 – 80
Change Table (some choose to use the top of a dresser with a change pad, instead of buying a separate change table)	\$70 – 250
Monitor	\$40 – 80
Bedding (incl. sheets, blanket, quilt, change pad, receiving blankets)	\$125 – 200
Sleepers (10 6mo.; 10 18mo. @ \$15)	\$300 +
Essential Clothes (hat, sweaters, snowsuit)	\$150 +
Extras to Consider: Clothes, shoes, swing, indoor seat, toys, exersaucer, pump.	
Disposable Diapers @ 20-35 cents/diaper (70 per week = 3650 diapers for first year)	\$700 – 1000
Reusable Diapers (cost is similar for first year, but dramatically less after that)	\$1000 – 1500 for 2 years
Formula (depending on if powder or ready-made)	\$1500 – 2500

Sources: mid-range catalogues (Sears, IKEA), based on least expensive to moderate. Formula costs estimated from Toronto Public Health study, 2002.