

Nursery Checklist

A room-by-room guide to setting up a safe, functional, and cozy nursery for your new baby.

Plan the Layout

- ☐ Measure the room and sketch a layout before buying furniture.
- ☐ Choose a calm color palette or theme to guide your choices.
- ☐ Map out zones for sleeping, changing, feeding, and storage.
- ☐ Keep the crib away from windows, cords, and heat sources.
- ☐ Plan clear walking paths so you can move easily in the dark.
Leave room to open drawers and doors fully without obstruction.
- ☐ Decide what is essential now versus what can be added later.

Furniture Essentials

- ☐ Choose a crib or bassinet that meets current safety standards.
- ☐ Add a dresser or shelving for clothes and supplies.
- ☐ Set up a sturdy changing station at a comfortable height.
- ☐ Include a comfortable chair or glider for feeding.
- ☐ Anchor tall furniture to the wall to prevent tipping.
Use anti-tip straps on dressers and bookcases.
- ☐ Assemble all furniture carefully and check that it is stable.

Safe Sleep Setup

- ☐ Use a firm, flat mattress that fits the crib snugly.
- ☐ Dress the crib with a fitted sheet and keep it otherwise bare.
- ☐ Remove pillows, blankets, bumpers, and stuffed toys from the crib.
- ☐ Install a baby monitor if the nursery is in another room.
- ☐ Keep cords from blinds and electronics out of reach.
- ☐ Review current safe sleep guidelines and follow them every time.

Storage and Organization

- ☐ Sort and fold clothes by size so the next stage is easy to find.
- ☐ Use labeled bins or baskets for diapers, wipes, and supplies.
- ☐ Keep changing essentials within arm's reach of the table.
- ☐ Set up a hamper for the steady stream of laundry.
- ☐ Store rarely used items higher up and daily items low.
Keep small objects and hazards well out of reach.
- ☐ Leave a little empty space for gifts and growing supplies.

Lighting and Climate

- ☐ Add blackout curtains or shades to help with daytime naps.
- ☐ Set up soft, dimmable lighting for nighttime feeds and changes.
- ☐ Place a small night-light for low-glare visibility.
- ☐ Keep the room at a comfortable, moderate temperature.
- ☐ Add a room thermometer to monitor warmth.
Aim for cool over warm and dress your baby in light layers.

- ☐ Consider an air filter or humidifier if your space needs it.

Decor and Comfort

- ☐ Hang wall art or shelves securely and out of crib reach.
- ☐ Add a soft, washable rug for floor time and comfort.
- ☐ Choose calming, simple decor that grows with your baby.
- ☐ Set up a cozy reading corner for quiet moments together.
- ☐ Secure any heavy frames or shelves to the wall.
- ☐ Keep decorations minimal near the crib for safety.

Stock the Supplies

- ☐ Stock diapers and wipes in the smallest size and the next size up.
- ☐ Keep a gentle diaper cream and clean changing pad covers ready.
- ☐ Fill a drawer with bodysuits, sleepers, socks, and swaddles.
- ☐ Add burp cloths, bibs, and a few soft blankets for awake time.
- ☐ Keep a basket of feeding supplies near the chair.
- ☐ Restock essentials before they run low to avoid late errands.

Do a quick weekly check of diapers and wipes.