

ALL ABOUT BABY FURNITURE

Special Report



Sarah Dixon

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How To Make The Transition To A Toddler Bed



Once you have decided that it is time to move your child to a toddler bed how you go about doing it is very important. This is a big change for a child and can be very stressful. Here are some ideas and tips that will hopefully help you to make it as painless as possible for your toddler.

If at all possible allow your child to be involved in the decision to move into the new bed and to

help pick it out. If you already have the bed and purchasing a new one is not an option then consider letting your child pick out new sheets and covers for it. This will make it more their bed in their mind and make the change more positive for them.

Once you have the toddler bed set it up in the child's room for several weeks before you actually move them into it. This will give them an opportunity to get used to it so it will not seem so new. If you need to you can even start having the child get into the toddler bed each night as part of the bed time routine and lay in it for a little while. Maybe while you read them a story, and then move into their crib when to actually sleep. Move everything possible from the crib into the toddler bed to reduce the actual amount of change. You can try having them take their day time naps in the bed but still sleep in their crib at night.

When you are actually ready to start using the toddler bed full time you should take down the crib and move the toddler bed into the same location in the room to ease the transition. Patience is the order of the day especially if your child is reluctant to give up their crib. Some children take to their new big boy or big girl bed without any qualms but for many it is a very trying change.

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Try to avoid doing it at the same time there are any other changes happening in your toddlers life. If they are just starting potty training, changing day cares or the addition of a new family member.

No matter what you do your child may just not be ready for this change in which case you just need to be patient and wait a few months and try it again.

How To Shop For Baby Designer Furniture

Oh what fun baby Designer furniture is! If you can afford to outfit your baby's first bedroom in Designer furniture, do it. You can rest assured that the furniture will be of high quality and last a lifetime being able to be passed down from generation to generation. A great way to start a family heirloom is with furniture that will last. You won't have to worry about the next generation having to buy furniture for their baby. They will be able to enjoy the pieces you bought and know that their baby is in good hands.

When looking for baby designer furniture, you will find a wide assortment of designs and styles to choose from. Go with something that compliments the decor in your nursery and makes it comfortable. Be sure to include pieces like a high chair, changing table, rocking chair and toy chest. Getting these things ahead of time will make you feel better about knowing you have it when you need it. Of course at first you won't be using the toy chest for toys, but you can store extra blankets and things for the baby in it. The rocking chair on the other hand will be put to use right away, I am sure. You need to get a comfortable rocking chair for you and the baby. This is probably the best place to nurse and feed your baby while it is an infant.

Baby designer furniture can be versatile as well as comfortable and of high quality. Versatile, meaning you can buy a crib that will turn into a toddler bed, and then later make into a single bed for when your baby gets bigger. Knowing you can buy furniture that will last your child through to grade school, is quite relieving for some new mom's. Otherwise you would be buying new furniture about every few years until your baby is a teen.

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Baby designer furniture is fun, high quality, and versatile. What else could a new mom ask for? Be sure you choose a name brand that you trust and know. You want to be comfortable knowing your baby is in good hands with the furniture that you choose. You will sleep better, and so will your baby.

Know Everything About Baby Car Safety



Please read this to know more about baby car seats and keeping your baby safe while in the car.

Q. What is the best baby car seat?

The best car seat is the one that matches your baby's size and weight. It also fits properly in your car and is easily installed.

Q. What types of baby car seats are available?

There are several types of baby car seats such as infant seats, front facing car seats, and convertible seats. There are also combination seats (can face front or rear), booster seats and integrated car seats. With each type of seat there are variations.

Q. Is a five-point harness or a shield safest for my baby?

A five point harness gives your child the greatest protection because it holds your baby tighter in the seat in the event of a crash. A T-Shield or over-the-head restraint allows too much room or can get in the way of chubby tummies and legs. The stalk of the T-Shield can cause serious injury to your baby.

Q. How can I find out how to safely install my baby's car seat?

All car seats (except most second hand seats) come with printed directions. If after reading the directions you still are not sure how to properly install it. You can call or email the manufacturer. Some police stations and hospitals have assistance programs as well.

Q. Is there a correct way to secure my child in the baby car seat?

Yes, there is a correct way in which to secure your child in his car seat. How you secure your baby in the car seat will likely depend on the age and size of your baby. For children under a year of age they should be placed in rear-facing seats in the center of the rear seat. Older children can sit facing front and their seat are generally placed behind the driver or passenger in order to utilize the shoulder/lap belts.

Q. What is LATCH?

LATCH refers to Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children. It is a baby car seat installation system. The lower hooks are attached between the bottom of the back of the seat and seat itself. The tether piece is a strap made of seat belt material with a clip that secures forward facing baby car seats and prevents excessive movement of the baby's head in crashes.

Q. What is a Tether?

The tether is a strap made of seat belt material with a clip. It attaches to the clips on the seat and secures front facing baby car seats. In a crash it prevents excessive movement of the seat and the baby's head, reducing the severity of injuries.

Q. How can I tell when my child is ready to use car seat belts without a booster seat?

Your child will be ready for using the car safety restraint system when s/he can sit all the way back in the seat and the knees can bend comfortably over the edge of the seat. The belt crosses the shoulder between the neck and the arm and the lap belt is low and touches the thighs. Your child must be able to remain seated the whole trip.

Q. Can a baby car seat be used safely in an airplane?

Yes it can. Airlines require children age 2 and under, to be in approved car seats. The seats must be 16 inches or less to fit in the airplane seats. Call ahead and find out if your seat is an approved seat. Once on the plane, the hostess/es, will be able to assist you.

Q. Is it safe for me to use second-hand baby car seats?

Yes it is safe to use second-hand baby car seats provided you do a safety check. Belts and harnesses should not be frayed or cracked. There should be no cracks or tears in the seat cover and the seat should recline easily and stay upright when the baby is seated. Look into the history of the seat, if it has been in a car crash do not buy it, its ability to safely restrain your child has been compromised.

If the seat does not come with a manual contact the manufacturer to ensure the seat will be properly installed. If the seat is more than 5 years old do not use it, it may have been in a crash and older baby car seats may not fit in new model cars.

Q. What should I do if my baby car seat is recalled?

In most cases, the manufacturer will provide you with instructions of what to do if baby car seat is recalled. In some cases they will replace it for free they will have you bring it somewhere to get replacement parts also at no cost to you.

Q. Are there baby car seats available for children with special needs?

Children with special needs may require different restraint systems. Discuss your options with your pediatrician.

Q. What is the best type of harness for my baby car seat?

There are four types of harnesses in baby car seats. The six-point harness has two straps at the shoulders, two at the hips and two at the crotch. The five-point harness has two straps at the shoulders, two at the hips and one at the crotch.

The t-shield is a padded triangle that latches at the crotch while the overhead shield comes down from over the head and latches at the crotch. The safest harnesses are the five or six-point harnesses.

These prevent excessive movement of the baby in crash situations. The t shield and the over-head shield allow for too much room and could cause your baby to be ejected from the car in a crash.

In Conclusion

You can never go wrong if you err on the side of caution when it comes to your baby. The size and weight of your baby as well as your budget will decide what type of seat you will purchase.

Mini crib bedding How to find that bargain

Hi everyone!! I guess you're looking for some tips on how to buy crib bedding of the net. This article is for parents that are looking for a bargain or just want to save some money. Finding crib bedding on the net is very easy, but finding the best bargains can take some more time. Most parents will just use their favourite search engine and think that the websites that show up on the first page are the top websites to buy mini crib bedding from. This is not so!! These are the websites that have done the most work to get their websites in the top positions within the search engines.

Selecting The Perfect Baby Furniture For Your Nursery



The first thing that most new parents think about is a bassinet or a crib. A bassinet is very small and is designed for babies, while a crib is designed for babies and toddlers. The main concern with a crib is that some children may find themselves wedged in between the bars, so pay close attention to the spacing if selecting a crib with your new baby furniture.

For those restless nights, a rocking chair is a must have. This is generally placed next to the bassinet or crib and is for one of the parents to spend time rocking their child back and forth, either to relax them or to help them fall asleep. This is an essential piece of baby furniture and must be well constructed in order to avoid any mishaps. If the chair is assembled upon purchase, double check it's stability prior to use.

Another important piece of baby furniture is a changing table. This is commonly used for changing diapers, cleaning up after the baby and even dressing the child. It is important to keep the baby's clothes in one of the changing table's compartments or right next to the unit in a drawer.

The reason that this is so important is so that your hand never leaves the child while on the table, so all clothes must be within reach so that you can safely reach for them while holding onto the child. A baby bathtub is another essential piece of baby furniture and is designed especially for the little one's comfort.

These are found at any baby specialty store or in the newborn department at a local retail store. Not necessarily classified as baby furniture, but necessary nonetheless is a baby stroller for taking your newborn for a short walk. In addition, a diaper bag with diapers and an extra change of clothes (for both you and the baby) should be taken along.

When selecting baby furniture, it is important to consider quality above all else. This is the furniture that stands between your child and the floor, so make sure that it is sturdy and secure. In addition, pay close attention to recalls on any baby furniture or accessories.

From time to time, certain types of baby furniture may be involved in a recall by the manufacturer. If this is the case, the manufacturer typically offers to either provide a repair, replacement or refund for the baby furniture in question.

Sweet Dreams in Baby Furniture Land

There are many different kinds of dog trainer collars. How do you know you are choosing the correct one for you and your dog? There are many things to take into consideration, when making this decision. Sometimes knowing how to choose, the right trainer over so many others can be a bit overwhelming.

Aren't they all the same? Actually, many of them may look the same, and some of them even work the same way, but they are all different, to allow a variety for different kinds of dogs. The most commonly used dog trainer collar is the collar with the remote. This particular collar will stimulate your dog in a safe and humane way to help you train your dog more effectively. The way this one works is to attach a collar to your dog, which is then ready to provide stimulation to your pet, to make him stop misbehaving and irritate him to the point that he stops and listens to your command. After so many times of using this collar and remote system, your dog will listen to you and respect your commands for fear of being irritated with the stimulation. This is a most effective way to train your dog with a collar. The difference in the many remote and collars available can be the range of the remote control, as well as the collar that is needed for your particular dog. This is many times based on the weight of the dog, as to which collar would work better on him.

Another dog trainer collar method that is used would be the one where you would bury a wire in your yard. You would bury this wire wherever you want to keep your dog out of. For instance, if you want to keep your dog in the yard, bury the wire around the perimeter of your lawn, and attach the collar to your dog. Your pet will learn very fast not to cross over the buried wire. When your dog gets close to the wire, a clicking noise will warn your dog about the stimulation that is about to occur.

This method is most effective for the dog owner that is not always home to use a remote. While looking for a dog trainer collar, try choosing the one that is best for you and your dog. You both will be much happier once your misbehaved dog is behaving like he should.

The Baby Stroller- How To ChooseThe Baby Stroller-How To Choose



You will need to begin gathering the things your baby will need, now that you got the news that you are expecting a bundle of joy. You may feel overwhelmed if this is your first baby with all the decisions that need to be made.

Deciding on the type of stroller you will use for your baby is one of the biggest decisions you will need to make. You need to determine your budget first before you begin choosing from among the many

different types of strollers. The cost of strollers can range from \$10 to \$400 and higher.

The lower end strollers are generally the lightweight umbrella strollers. Easy folding and storage give these strollers an advantage. High prices for a stroller could indicate greater quality and better features. You should know which of the variety of features that come with strollers is important to you?

Which would you want a convertible travel system or a stroller and a car seat? A travel system has a stay in the car base, a stroller frame to which the infant carrier/ car safety seat is attached. These are wonderful especially for your newborn baby.

A play tray that has places for a bottle or juice cup come with strollers. Many strollers come with canopies that have vinyl windows to let you keep an eye on the baby. Easily applied foot brakes that are attached to both rear wheels and a wrist strap brake that can be used together are included on most strollers.

While you have the strap on it gives you extra safety while you are stopped because the stroller can't roll away. Strollers are now coming with a parent tray that fits over the handle bar as well as a large storage basket that fits under the seat(s). It has a holder for a cup of coffee or a soda, your cell phone, snack, and your keys.

Reversible handlebars that can be moved from front to rear or vice versa and are height adjustable are now on most strollers. The reversible handlebars can help you to see your baby while he rides if necessary and the height adjustable feature is a great back saver.

Next to be considered is the seat. Will the seat recline enough, if it reclines, to allow your newborn to lie almost flat? Will the seat be comfortable for your baby and well padded? Can the seat padding be removed so it can be washed? Blankets that can be attached with snaps to the seat come on most upper end strollers

Your baby's stroller becomes like a bunting on wheels with these blankets. Your baby is protected from wind and harsh sunlight with the use of these detachable rain hoods.

Another twist comes with your decision about a baby stroller. You can have for free a stroller that is almost brand new from your friend. She promises to get the stroller ready for you and cleaned.

Is it a safe choice for your baby to have a used stroller? Before you place your baby in it you will need to look over some things and it could be a very good choice for you and your baby. No gaps, dents, or cracks should be found in the frame. Bolts and screws must all be in place.

If it were anything less your baby could be seriously hurt in an accident. Are there any sharp spots on the frame? Can your baby be cut by screws sticking out or are there loose screws? Is the frame and handle bar properly joined?

Do you need to look over the wheels for leaks in air pressure or are they solid?

The wheels; are they worn?

Do the wheels need replacement?

Are the wheels turning appropriately?

Are the axels crooked?

Are the brakes holding when applied and working properly?

No matter if the seat is in straight us position or reclining position, does the seat hold?

Your baby could be seriously hurt if the seat does not hold the position well. Is the seat lining fitting the frame properly and is it clean? Strollers have a variety of options, types, and styles. Multi-seated strollers are available for two children or more.

There is a variety of seating arrangements including tandem and side by seating as well as stadium seating which a variation of tandem seating where the rear seat is higher than the front allowing the second child to see more than just the back of a head.

Jogging strollers have a triangular wheelbase with one large one out in front and two in the rear. Jogging strollers also come with multiple seating. Used or new enjoy your outings with your baby or children.

The Family Bed

There's an old tradition in Ireland, the wake bed, a family bed where the dead are waked. Well, the family bed takes on a whole new meaning when you have children: the awake bed!

When your new baby arrives home from the hospital all your plans to not spoil him go out the window. He is a tiny little soul and you are his slave. He squeaks, you run. You are completely in his control!

You planned to feed him, bathe him, dress him, play with him, show him off and at the end of the day, put him to sleep in his lovely new crib!

Real life isn't like that...

You've fed him, bathed him, dressed him, played with him, showed him off and, sleeping soundly in your arms, you've tenderly placed him in his lovely new crib.

His eyes open, he glares at you, opens his mouth wide and screams loud enough to awaken the dead!

How dare you abandon him like that?

At the end of a tiring day you dolefully give in to his battle cry; you lift him and he stops... you are in his grip!

As days and nights merge into one he habitually sandwiches himself between mummy and daddy! Number two arrives and it becomes a priority to make number one stay in his own bed. But, oh no, he doesn't like that!

He may start off there but he makes his own way into the family bed throughout the night.

You may resort to tricks to encourage him to stay in his own room. Lovely new bed-clothes, soft character lighting, soothing music, pretty mobiles...

Don't fool yourself; he's well ahead of you! His nocturnal excursions continue.

You beg, you plead, for a full night's sleep in your own bed without your little visitor - but it falls on deaf ears! Still he pays his call.

You resort to purchasing a new bed for yourself, a bigger one. You have a bright idea: let the wee man have your old bed.

He'll like that, his own big bed, just like mummy and daddy!

More lovely bedclothes, lots of praise for your little treasure. Why didn't you think of it sooner?

Oh, the naivety of first-time parents.

His new bed might be bigger but so is yours; there's even more room between mummy and daddy now. So he can bring a few toys along too!

As the family grows so does the gap. You precariously hang off one side of the new big bed as your husband hangs off the other, but you smile as you sing along to, 'There were five in the bed and the little one said, "Roll Over!" Life imitates nursery rhymes. Didn't you know that?

Tips on Buying Baby Slings and Baby Carriers



The baby sling has been used for centuries, and has recently gained great favor among modern mothers. It's felt that a small infant has more privacy with a sling (Actress Keri Russell says her sling is her baby's "paparazzi shield"!), and it's especially useful for nursing mothers.

There are several important things to consider when choosing a sling or front carrier. First, check the sling to see what size / weight it is rated for. Is the sling padded? Padding is excellent for protecting toddler's sensitive legs. When debating between baby carriers and baby slings, keep in mind that front carriers are designed for infants from 8 to 25 pounds, while baby slings can be used for preemies all the way up to toddlers at 35 pounds.

For soft carriers, make sure that it's washable and has adjustable straps. This allows you to keep the same great fit as your baby grows. Your baby should fit snugly, and have good head support, and their weight should be evenly distributed. Only use a carrier to move the baby about when you are walking.

Never use it to transport the baby on a bike, in a car, or any other means of transportation. Check the carrier from time to time for any damage: things like a ripped seam, a missing or loose snap or strap, or a place where the fabric has worn through and a sharp edge is protruding.

Some car seats convert to lift-out-and-carry baby carriers. While these can be heavy and bulky, some mothers prefer them to traditional carriers. Many are designed to snap into a car seat base, or into a stroller.

Only use those types of models together. Never take a base from one model (maybe that someone has given you) and try to rig up something to hold your carrier in it.

In an accident, the carrier will break free, and your baby will become a projectile! If you own a new car, never put your baby's carrier / car seat in the front. In the event of an accident, the airbags could cause serious injury to your child.

In the case of a backpack carrier, consider getting one that can be worn on your back, side or front. It gives you more options depending on the age and temperament of your child. Some carriers provide a sun shield (which doubles as a rain guard) as an added bonus.

Remember, the heat of the sun is much more damaging to an infant's head than an adult's. You want your baby's weight evenly distributed, so get a backpack carrier that's adjustable. Make sure the fabric is washable, and easy to remove; filthy cloth is a breeding ground for germs. Follow these tips, and your baby will stay safe and healthy and so will you.

Types of Baby Strollers

As you know there is a wide variety of baby strollers available to choose from. Your choice of strollers will be affected by how many children you plan to use it for, how you are going to use the stroller and where, and finally your budget. All things aside your baby's comfort and safety will also influence your choice. Let's take a look at some of the types of strollers available to you. The standard stroller will fit one child and there are many different features on standard strollers such as play trays, parent trays, fabrics, and handlebars. On many strollers handlebars are now height adjustable which is great back saver.

Double strollers have two seats. There is a variety of seating arrangements for double strollers.

The traditional double seat is one behind the other - tandem style. Tandem seating has the first child with a good view and the one in the rear seat sees the back of the other's head. A variant of the tandem seating is stadium seating. Think of bleachers where each seat is raised slightly above the one in front of it allowing those in the rear to see what's going on. There is side by side seating as well as face to face seating.

Jogging strollers are very popular because they enable you to bring your child along on a run. The jogging stroller has a triangular wheel base with two large wheels in the rear and one wheel in the front. They have many attractive features. An added safety feature is a wrist strap on the handle bar. This is worn so that when you stop, the stroller doesn't roll away from you. As always whenever you stop your stroller the break should always be applied. The wrist strap is added protection. Jogging strollers are available for multiple seating as well.

Triple strollers are terrific for triplets or three children. Seating arrangements can be side by side but most have tandem seating or stadium seating. When the stroller is full of kids and you are pushing it will help you achieve your goals of fitness. Convertible multiple strollers are available where they can be made into double seater's with additional seats and a transverse bar. You might want to check if this option is available for the particular stroller you are considering.

Umbrella strollers are very inexpensive. They are generally easier to fold and unfold. They are very lightweight and store easily in a car trunk. They are terrific for short trips to the Mall or short walks. They do not work well on all terrain. They do come in multiple seating as well. The only drawback I had with umbrella strollers is that if anything was hung on the handle it caused the carriage to tip backwards.

Light weight strollers are slightly heavier than the umbrella strollers and slightly less than the standard stroller. They typically fold in a single hand motion. They also resemble the standard type stroller. They also come in multiple seating.

Carriage Strollers are convertible strollers in that you can change them from a carriage (a bed on wheels) to a stroller. This is great for infants that are unable to sit up yet. The handle is reversible so you can turn it into a stroller which is great for children who are sitting up. Bike strollers or trailers are installed by attaching it to the rear wheel. There are two seated models available. They can be converted from a trailer to a stroller with no tools. The restraint system is a five-point harness for each child.

What is a Crib Rail Cover



Teething is a real important time for children. All children react and respond differently to the teething period, but teething is something that all teething babies enjoy doing. The Crib Rail furnishes teething tots with the perfect chewing opportunity. The Crib Rail Cover will assist you and your little infant during this period of time. It

is very important that you make sure that you purchase the right kind of Crib Rail Cover. When you decide to purchase a Crib Rail Cover it is very important that you make sure that it is made of a soft safe fabric. You will notice that some Crib Rail Covers are made of a pliant plastic. This may cover the wooden part of the crib rail, however it may be too tough and it could still traumatize your child's new chompers.

A Crib Rail Cover is a very affordable item that you may want to invest in as a backup if the need arises. Teething babies really enjoy chewing on things. The Crib Rail Cover provides the perfect testing ground for new babies to practice using their new teeth.

During the teething stage you may notice that teething infants will stand in the crib and chew on the sides of the Teething Rail and this isn't safe for your little baby. Sometimes the tiny tot can incidentally chip their teeth on the sides of the Teething Rail. The Crib Rail Cover will help stop these accidents from happening. The Crib Rail Cover has been made to help protect your teething tiny infant from splintering wood and harmful varnish.

Are you the owner of a baby crib? If that's the case, you may need to buy a Crib Rail Cover. Investing in a Crib Rail Cover will protect your teething baby in the crib. Crib Railings are typically made of a wood. A Crib Rail Cover was created to envelope this solid material and to soften it. Crib Rails are normally treated with a varnish or some other brand of paint.

This material could put your baby in harm's way. Once your young tot has started to teethe he or she might attempt to bite down on the sides of the Teething Rail. The Crib Rail Cover is designed to safely cushion and guard your teething baby from the harmful effects that stem from chewing upon the sides of the Crib Rail.

When To Make The Transition To A Toddler Bed

Many people are concerned about moving their child from their crib to a toddler bed too soon or too late. There are some general guidelines but it really comes down to each individual child.

While age and size can help provide some indicators much of it depends on the child's mental and emotional development as to whether they are ready to handle this dramatic change in their life.

If the child is starting to climb out of the crib then you definitely need to start the process of moving him/her from the crib into a toddler bed.

There is too great of a risk that the child can fall and injure themselves while climbing out of the bed.

If your child is three feet tall or taller you should probably move them out of the crib because they are just getting too large for most cribs. Any time you feel the child is too big, or active for their crib you can move them.

If the child has started potty training they may need to be in a bed to allow them to get up and use the bathroom as needed. Most children can be safely moved to a toddler bed anywhere from 18 months to 3.5 years old.

Many child experts recommend that you wait until the child is closer to 3 before moving them.

This is a big change for most children, they are giving up their familiar and comfortable crib. This can make it a very stressful situation for the child, if it seems to be causing undue stress for your little one you are certainly better off to hold off and wait a little longer before moving the child.

If your toddler is climbing out of their crib yet resists being moved to a toddler bed you do have some alternatives. You could install a crib tent on the crib.

This is a framework covered with a mesh like cloth that appears very similar to the popular dome tents. This mounts on the top of the rails of the crib and fully encloses it to keep the baby from climbing out of the crib and possibly injuring themselves.

Whenever you do decide to move the child try to get them excited about it and carefully monitor how they are reacting to the change. There are a variety of things you can do to try to ease the transition for them.

Where to Find Baby Discount Furniture



Baby discount furniture is generally not hard to find, if you know where to look. Whether you are having a boy or a girl, you will need baby furniture to create that special room for your new arrival. Creating that special room on a tight budget can sometimes be tricky. While looking for baby furniture at a discount, there are a few things you will want to keep in mind.

You can often find baby discount furniture at many fine department stores. That is if you catch them putting their baby furniture on sale. If

you are lucky, you will find many pieces of baby furniture throughout the year, with just the right markdown. End of the year and clearance sales are great to look for when sturdy baby furniture is something you need. Baby furniture is so versatile, you might find some pieces at a discount price that will go from newborn to grade school, without breaking the bank, or having to switch out furniture in a few years.

Garage sales are an excellent place to look for baby discount furniture. Many people use their baby furniture to the turn around and resell it in a garage sale, for only a fraction of the price. Some baby furniture items you might find at a garage sale include, name brand cribs; nice sturdy dressers; an all needed changing table; and high chairs that are in great condition, only to name a few. The best time of year to look for garage sales in your neighborhood would be in the spring and summer time. These are the times of the year that many people are cleaning unwanted items out of their homes, to make a few bucks in return. Thrift shops can be a good resource for finding baby discount furniture also. Sometimes people will donate their unwanted items to a thrift store so that they can be resold, and the money will go to charity.

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By being creative, you can even make your own baby furniture out of an old piece of furniture you might spot. Antique desks can easily be spiffed up with new paint and hardware to create a changing table for your baby. Keep in mind the height you would need with drawers easily accessible to hold all of the items a newborn might need.

Transitioning Your Baby To Sleep

New parents have many responsibilities. Close to the top of the list is to develop and nurture good sleep patterns and sleeping habits for their new baby. Newborns need to transition from sleeping with the mother to sleeping alone, but getting your baby to learn to sleep on his own takes some time. However, there are many benefits for both the baby and the parents when this takes place.

There are a seemingly endless supply of tips and helpful hints to assist parents with this tricky task. Research and try as many as it takes to find out what works best for your baby and you. Trust your intuition and never give up until you have found that magic combination. The reward of your baby and you both getting a good night of sleep on a consistent basis is worth the effort.

Most of the advice you will find to help with your baby's sleep deals with establishing schedules, habits and associations for your baby just before and during bedtime. Associating bedtime with sleeping is the goal. The sooner you can achieve that association, the more likely the baby will go to sleep without a struggle.

Establishing the differences between daytime and nighttime is something that most advisors seem to ignore. Creating the understanding in your baby the change from being awake during daytime and falling asleep at night is a very valuable step. Here are some methods you can try.

Many times your baby has been very active throughout the day and is too stimulated to relax and fall to sleep.

Employ one of those sling-type baby carriers that hold your baby close to your body while allowing you to be free to go about your regular activities around the house. Your baby will love being in close contact with you. This will provide ample time for your baby to calm down slowly from that hyped feeling of stimulation and excitement.

Many times the routine of transitioning between thirty minutes or an hour before bedtime is performed by the mother. This may be working against you. Try this with the father. Just before moving the baby into the bed, have Dad hold and cradle the baby close.

His voice is generally much deeper than Mom's is and often the baby can be more soothed by it. This change in routine can be learned as a triggering mechanism for the baby – "Dad is holding me, it must be almost time for sleep."

Whether you find it in a listing of baby tips or discover it on your own, one of the methods of transitioning into bedtime is to simply take the baby for a car ride. While this idea may seem to be a perfect "quick fix," I would advise against it. In the beginning, it may seem like a good deal. After all who wouldn't trade a little inconvenience for a night of peace and quiet and sleep?

However, as your baby becomes accustomed to that nightly driving ritual, dependence may develop and it will not take long to become much more than just an inconvenience. The idea is to begin slowly with these transition techniques.

Once you and your baby have found the magic formula and have built an almost automatic routine, then just as slowly transition away from them and into a much more simple bedtime pattern. The goal here is to teach your baby to sleep on its own. Good Night and enjoy your baby and your rest!

Transitioning From Bassinet To Crib



If your baby has been sleeping in your room in a bassinet, you may have some concerns about moving her to her own room and her crib. But, don't worry; you will probably both sleep better once the transition is complete. Most babies are ready to move to the crib at around six to eight weeks of age, or whenever he is sleeping for longer periods during the night.

Be prepared that the crib might feel a bit large to the baby who has been accustomed to a bassinet, but the transition

will be much easier when the baby is older than it would have been with a newborn.

If your baby seems bothered by the size of the crib, try putting a pillow at his feet to give the illusion of a smaller space. However, if your baby is turning over on his own, or scooting about the crib, leave the pillow out, as it can be dangerous. To make the transition easier, have the baby take naps in the crib for a few weeks before you move him in there for the whole night. Ideally, have baby take naps in his crib from the very beginning, so that when you move him there permanently, the surroundings will be familiar.

If you're worried that you won't hear the baby with him in another room, use a monitor to alleviate your worries. But, what you'll likely find is that you hear him when he really needs you, but you don't wake up at every little gurgle, which means better rest for both of you. Many first time moms are very fearful of sleeping through their child's cries, but it is rarely a real concern. In spite of the fact that you are likely very sleep deprived, you will hear your baby.

Finally, it is common to worry about your child feeling isolated. But, studies show that children are much more likely to be comfortable sleeping alone in their room if they begin this routine early in life. The two year old who has always slept in Mom and Dad's room would definitely feel isolated when put into his own room, the two month old will not. It is probably a bigger adjustment for you than the baby.

Your baby is getting more independent, and that might be making you a bit sad, which is perfectly normal. But, there are many more days of this ahead, and each step toward independence is a sign that you're giving your child the skills he needs to develop.