



Safe preparation of powdered infant formula

Sanitize feeding equipment

Sanitize equipment until your baby is 4 months old. After baby is 4 months old, make sure the equipment is cleaned well with hot soapy water and rinsed with clean water that is safe to drink.

Sanitize feeding equipment before use. Feeding equipment is not fully sanitized until it has been boiled or sanitized in a dishwasher with the sanitize cycle or sanitized in a steam sanitizer.

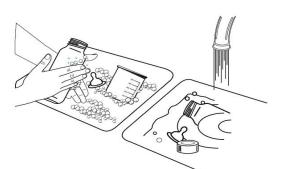
You will need bottles and nipples, dishsoap, knife, liquid measuring cup, powdered infant formula with scoop, and sanitized tongs.

If you don't use the sanitized bottles right away, wait until they are completely dry and then fully assemble them so the inside stays clean. Store all feeding equipment in a clean, protected area.

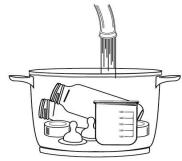
Sanitize by boiling



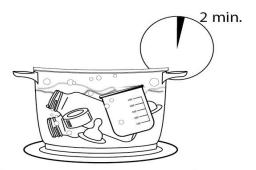
Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



Clean the feeding
equipment and working
area with hot soapy water.
Then rinse in clean water
that is safe to drink.

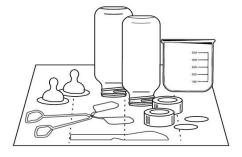


Put all the feeding equipment in a large pot. Cover the items with cold tap water.



4

Bring to a continuous rolling boil, in an uncovered pot, for **2 minutes**.



Remove the feeding equipment with tongs that have been sanitized. Put the items on a clean towel or paper towel to air dry.

Sanitize by dishwasher or steam sanitizer

A dishwasher with the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) symbol can be used to sanitize the feeding equipment if the sanitize cycle is used. You can check online to see if the dishwasher is NSF certified. You can also use an electric or microwave steam sanitizer (including microwave steam bags). Follow the instructions for the sanitizer you use.





Safe preparation of powdered infant formula

All water used to prepare infant formula for babies under 4 months old needs to be boiled to make it safe. After baby is 4 months old, use clean water that is safe to drink.

Prepare the formula using the steps below. Use infant formula within 2 hours of preparation. If you do not plan to use the formula immediately after preparation, store the bottle in the fridge and use within 24 hours.

Throw away any leftover formula from the feed—don't re-heat or re-refrigerate used formula. After 2 hours, your baby's saliva in the leftover formula can create growth of bacteria that can make your baby sick.

Label the formula lid with date can is opened. Store powdered formula can in a cool dry place. Use within 1 month of opening and before expiration date.

Boil the water



Fill a pot with cold tap water. Bring to a rolling boil, uncovered, for two minutes. Remove from heat. Let cool.



Pour the cooled water into a sanitized container and close tightly. Place container in fridge. Boiled water can be stored in the fridge for 2-3 days at 4°C or 40°F or for 24 hours at room temperature.

Prepare the formula



Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



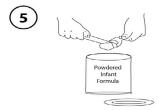
Clean the work area with hot soapy water. Use sanitized feeding equipment.



Wash the top of the new powdered infant formula can with hot soapy water. Rinse with clean water that is safe to drink. Open the can by pulling the foil tab. After use, put lid on can.



Follow the recipe for your baby. Pour the exact amount of previously boiled water that has been cooled to room, body, or fridge ($\le4^{\circ}C$) temperature into the bottle.



Fill the scoop from the can with powdered infant formula and level it with a sanitized knife. Add the right number of scoops of powdered infant formula to the bottle. Screw lid on bottle. Shake well.

Optional: Warm the formula. Never use a microwave to heat formula. If heating the bottle to feed your baby, put it in a bowl of warm water until it reaches a warm temperature, for no longer than 15 minutes. Do not cover the lid/nipple with water when warming as this can lead to contamination of the formula. Gently shake or swirl formula to mix. Test the formula on your wrist to make sure it's just warm, not hot.

© 2024, Alberta Health Services, Promoting Health

(cc) BY-NC-ND https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0

This material is intended for general information only and is provided on an "as is", "where is" basis. Although reasonable efforts were made to confirm the accuracy of the information, Alberta Health Services does not make any representation or warranty, express, implied or statutory, as to the accuracy, reliability, completeness, applicable purposes of such information. This material is not a substitute for the advice of a qualified health professional. Alberta Health Services expressly disclaims all liability for the use of these materials, and for any claims, actions, demands or suits arising formula values.