

Baby Formula Shortage Information



Appropriate nutrition is important for babies under the age of 1; they need the correct balance of nutrients to maintain their rapid growth and development.

Breast milk contains these; formulas are specially designed to best mimic this and meet the needs.

Why the shortage?

- **There are supply issues** for ingredients, packaging, labor as well as shipping.
- **The recall earlier this year contributed as well.** The duration is unknown, but urgent need is recognized with efforts underway to reverse situation as quickly as possible.

If you can't find formula, – DOs

- **Contact your pediatrician for samples** (if available) or contacts that can provide a supply or your local WIC office, 2-1-1 (United Way) or food bank/SNAP may also be able to provide suggest places to check.
- **Check smaller stores and pharmacies**, which may have a supply when the bigger stores do not.
- **Shop for formula online**, purchasing from well-recognized sites rather than individually sold or auctions which may sell expired or lower quality products. Do not purchase formula from overseas, since imported formula is not FDA-reviewed or approved and may not be up to recognized nutritional and safety standards.
- **For most babies, it is OK to switch** to any available formula, including store brands, unless your baby is on a specific extensively hydrolyzed or amino acid-based formula (hypoallergenic) such as Alimentum/ Nutramigen/ Elecare (no store brand exists). If you are unsure, talk with your pediatrician. With brand changes, babies may get an upset stomach, be a little fussy or have a change in stool (bowel movements) as they adjust to the change.
- **Check social media groups.** There are groups dedicated to infant feeding and formula, and members may have ideas for where to find formula. Make sure to check any advice with your pediatrician.
- **Formula share with a friend** or within a group of parents – “borrow” a can if able.

DO NOT

- **Make your own formula** – recipes for homemade formulas may seem healthy, less expensive, or an option during this shortage, they are not safe and do not meet your baby's nutritional needs. Infant deaths have been reported from use of some homemade formulas.
- **Add extra water to “stretch” your supply** –Watering down formula is dangerous. It can cause nutritional imbalances in your baby and lead to serious health problems. Always mix formula as directed by the manufacturer.
- **Switch to cow's milk** – difficult to completely digest under 1 year, not correct nutrient balance which can stress baby's body and lead to health problems.
- **Use milk alternatives** – not recommended under a year; especially plant-based milks which are low in protein and minerals.
- **Use recalled or expired formula.**
- **Use toddler formulas** – not recommended under a year, not FDA regulated – may be OK for a few days if no other choice and close to first birthday.
- **Stockpile** – if you find a supply limit purchases to enough for a 10-14 day span.

Helpful Links

[AAP HealthyChildren.Org information](https://www.aap.org/healthychildren)

[FDA Infant Safety Dos & Don'ts](#)

[USDA WIC Flexibilities](#)

[USDA Infant Formula Safety](#)

If no formula is available, infants older than 6 months, who have started baby food and currently drink a cow's milk formula, may use whole milk for a short duration along with iron rich foods, until infant formula can be obtained.

Baby Formulas

Standard – cow-milk based formula

Similac Advance
Similac Pro Advance
Similac 360 Total Care
Similac Organic
Pure Bliss by Similac
Enfamil Infant
Enfamil NeuroPro Infant
Enfamil Enspire
Enfamil Simply Organic
Enfamil A2
Parent's Choice Advantage (Walmart)
Parent's Choice Infant (Walmart)
Parent's Choice Organic (Walmart)
Parent's Choice Supplementation (Walmart)
Up & Up Advantage (Target)
Up & Up Infant (Target)
Mama Bear Infant (Amazon)
Mama Bear Advantage (Amazon)
Mama Bear Organic (Amazon)
Earth's Best Organic Dairy
Happy Baby Organic
Burt's Bees Organic Infant Milk
Little Journey's Advantage (Aldi)
Little Journey's Infant (Aldi)
Plum Organics Grow Well Organic
Plum Organics Premium
Kirkland Signature ProCare (COSTCO)
Kirkland Signature Infant (COSTCO)
Comforts Advantage (Kroger)
Comforts Infant (Kroger)
Member's Mark Advantage (Sam's Club)
Member's Mark Infant (Sam's Club)
HEB Baby Advantage (HEB)
HEB Baby Infant (HEB)
CVS Health Advantage (CVS)
CVS Health Infant (CVS)
Always My Baby Advantage (Giant)
Always My Baby Infant (Giant)
Tippy Toes Advantage (Giant Eagle, Weis Markets)
Tippy Toes Infant (Giant Eagle, Weis Markets)

Low Lactose – reduce gassiness

Similac Sensitive Similac Pro Sensitive
Similac 360 Total Care Sensitive
Enfamil NeuroPro Gentlease
Enfamil Gentlease
Enfamil Enspire Gentlease
Enfamil Reguline
Gerber Good Start Gentle
Gerber Good Start Gentle Pro
Gerber Good Start Gentle Supreme
Gerber Good Start Soothe Pro
Parent's Choice Gentle (Walmart)
Parent's Choice Tender (Walmart)
Up & Up Gentle (Target)
Up & Up Complete Comfort (Target)
Mama Bear Gentle (Amazon)
Earth's Best Organic Gentle
Burt's Bees Organic Ultra Gentle
Little Journey's Gentle (Aldi)
Plum Organics Gentle
Comforts Gentle (Kroger)
Comforts Tender (Kroger)
Member's Mark Gentle (Sam's Club)
CVS Health Complete Comfort (CVS)
HEB Baby Complete Comfort (HEB)
Always My Baby Gentle (Giant)
Tippy Toes Gentle (Giant Eagle, Weis Markets)

“Easy GI” – reduce GI upset

Similac Total Comfort Similac Pro Total Comfort
Enfamil NeuroPro Gentlease
Enfamil Gentlease
Enfamil Enspire Gentlease
Enfamil Reguline
Gerber Good Start Gentle
Gerber Good Start Gentle Pro
Gerber Good Start Soothe Pro
Parent's Choice Gentle (Walmart)
Earth's Best Organic Gentle
Always My Baby Gentle (Giant)
Tippy Toes Gentle (Giant Eagle, Weis Markets)

Soy – soy-based formula

Similac Isomil
Enfamil Prosoabee
Gerber Good Start Gentle Soy
Parent's Choice Soy (Walmart)
Up & Up Soy (Target)
Mama Bear Soy (Amazon)
Earth's Best Non-GMO Plant Based Soy
Little Journey's Soy (Aldi)
Comforts Soy (Kroger)
CVS Health Soy (CVS)
HEB Baby Soy (HEB)
Tippy Toes Soy (Giant Eagle, Weis Markets)

Added Rice – added rice to thicken to reduce reflux

Similac For Spit Up
Enfamil AR
Parent's Choice Added Rice (Walmart)
Up & Up Added Rice Starch (Target)
Comforts Added Rice Starch (Kroger)
CVS Health Added Rice Starch (CVS)
HEB Baby Added Rice Starch (HEB)
Tippy Toes Added Rice Starch (Giant Eagle, Weis Markets)

Partially Broken-down Formulas (Consult MD before using)

Similac Alimentum
Mead Johnson Nutramigen
Mead Johnson Pregestimil
Gerber Extensive HA
Parent's Choice Hypoallergenic (Walmart)
Up & Up Hypoallergenic (Target)
Comforts Hypoallergenic (Kroger)
CVS Health Hypoallergenic (CVS)
Well Beginnings Hypoallergenic (Walgreens)
Tippy Toes Hypoallergenic (Giant Eagle, Weis Markets)
HEB Baby Hypoallergenic (HEB)

Premature Formulas (Consult MD before using)

Similac Neosure
Enfamil NeuroPro Enficare

Elemental Amino Acid Based (Consult MD before using)

Neocate Infant
Neocate Syneo
Elecare Infant
Mead Johnson Puramino DHA & ARA (infant)
Nestle Alfamino Infant



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