



# ULTIMATE GUIDE FOR PLANNING A PERFECT *Baby Shower*

First things first - congratulations! You are about to bring a baby into this world, we couldn't be happier for you! One of the most exciting times leading up to the birth of the newest addition to your family is getting friends and family together to celebrate with a baby shower. To aid you in the process of planning the party, we have created this simple guide filled with tips and ideas on how to make your party memorable and fun!

## 1. PLAN AHEAD ON HOW TO DECORATE YOUR PARTY – GETTING THE RIGHT PARTY KIT IS KEY!

As you may already know, the theme of a baby shower usually involves only two signature colors: pink or blue. For your party to look amazing and complete, you may need to prepare not only the decorations, but also some cute photo props, a cake topper and, most importantly, a banner or sign indicating the gender of the baby!

We're parents too, and we understand that you only get one chance to host such a special event. After having set up hundreds of baby showers, birthdays, and gender reveals working for a professional event company, we realized that it's quite easy for anybody to recreate a professional looking event for significantly less cost with the proper guidance!

We've collaborated with some of the best event decorators in the industry to design an all-in-one party kit and easy to follow step-by-step video instructions.



With this guidance you will be able to create a heartwarming, picture-perfect occasion which can be shared for a lifetime! The feedback was spectacular, you really have to [see it for yourself!](#)

For extra style points, pair the kit up with some unique baby boxes:



## 2. SET THE DATE AND SEND OUT INVITATIONS

If you have already picked a date - amazing, if not - keep on reading. Setting a date well in advance is essential since it is best to send out invitations as soon as possible so your guests mark their calendars off.

Typically, baby showers are held when the expectant mom is about seven months pregnant—she's well into her pregnancy by then, but she's probably still pretty comfortable. This time frame will also give her plenty of time to organize gifts after the shower and decide what she'll still need to purchase before the little one arrives.

The sophistication of your invites depends on the size of the party you are hosting and your personal preference. If it is a small get together, you can simply choose to send a quick text or call your guests as an invitation. Should you decide on a bigger party, there are plenty of amazing free tools online to aid you in creating a beautiful invitation. Regardless of the size of the party, **each invitation should include the date, location, time and RSVP details.**

The following are a few examples of invitations available online:



Also, here are some of our favourite online platforms for easy creation of electronic invitations such as [Greetings Island](#), [Evite](#), [Punchbowl](#), [Canva](#) and [Paperless Post](#).

## 3. CHOOSE A VENUE

Consider the number of guests, your budget, and time of the year when you will be planning the event. Hosting a baby shower in your house or backyard is intimate, personal, and you won't have to pay to reserve space at another event venue. This can be great for saving money but usually requires a bit more effort. If the guest list is large, or you have a bigger

budget, consider a nearby hotel or restaurant. This can be very helpful and allow more time to enjoy the shower as the setup, catering, and cleanup will be managed for you.

## 4. MAKE YOUR GUESTS MOUTHS WATER

Planning the menu is essential to hosting a memorable baby shower. Serve up some pregnant mom's favorites, or choose a menu that sticks with the theme or color of your shower. Some great touches you can incorporate are: a color matched fruit display, a candy bar, cake/cupcakes, and DIY cocktails and drinks. Remember, food can always be decor!

Some food ideas include:



## 5. REGISTERING FOR GIFTS

Creating a baby registry is fun, exciting, and totally overwhelming. It feels like there are a million baby items to choose from (in fact, there very well might be), narrowing down which store (or stores) to send your friends and family to can be daunting. After all, you want your picks to be convenient and fall into everyone's budgets while still including everything you want and need for your new baby.

Here are some of our favorite store registries:

- [Amazon Baby Registry](#)
- [Target Baby Registry](#)
- [Ikea Baby Registry](#)
- [Pottery Barn Registry](#)
- [Walmart Baby Registry](#)

To take things one step further and make your gift registry a breeze, try these all-in-one solutions:

- [Babylist.com](#)
- [Myregistry.com](#)
- [Buybuybaby.com](#)



## 6. DECIDE ON HOW TO DOCUMENT THE EVENT

Before the event starts, make sure you have a way to document it, especially the moment when the gifts are being open revealing the reaction of the mommy to be! Whether you choose to simply take photos and videos with your cell phone or hire a photographer/ videographer make sure you have a designated person who is aware and prepared for their duty well in advance. The event will come to an end but let's ensure the memories last forever!

## FINISHING TOUCHES

There are no rules on baby shower etiquette, it certainly would be a thoughtful gesture to give your guests a baby shower favor as they leave. It could be something home-made like cookies or popcorn with a cute note thanking your guests for celebrating with you. Or it could be something simple like this hand soap.



## BABY SHOWER PLANNING LIST

### THREE MONTHS IN ADVANCE:

- Create a guest list
- Decide on how to decorate the party
- Confirm a date
- Set a budget (consider: Food, drinks, any rentals, games and gifts)
- Pick a location or venue. Is it at someone's house? A private room at a restaurant? A park? Make sure to confirm availability
- Confirm the baby gender - it might sound silly, but we've seen early ultrasounds get this wrong

### TWO MONTHS IN ADVANCE:

- Design the invitations, if you are planning a baby registry include any necessary information
- Print and send out invitations to guests
- Make sure your gift registry is set up, you'll want the registry ready before the invitations arrive to guests. That way, guests can start their baby shower gift shopping as soon as they would like
- Choose games you'll like to play and make a list of supplies you'll need

### ONE MONTH IN ADVANCE:

- Verify your RSVP list and contact those guests who haven't responded
- Plan the menu. Are you serving a full meal or just some yummy snacks? Remember to consider any allergies of your guest
- Prepare your party favors. It may seem early, but shipping times can vary greatly if they're being ordered online
- Have all decorations and other items for the event ordered
- Reserve party rental supplies if needed.
- Assign someone to be the official photographer for the day

### TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE:

- Make final touches on your menu
- Order the baby shower cake or cupcakes
- Make sure you have enough seating and tableware for the guests

- Prepare any party favors you'll be handing out
- Organize a day-of agenda and make sure you have extra hands to help you out

### **ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE:**

- Verify the guest list, and offer help to anyone making travel arrangements
- Clean and iron any table cloths or linens you'll be using
- Gather supplies for games you'll be playing
- Print out any menus, name tags, thank you notes or other materials you may need

### **3-5 DAYS BEFORE:**

- Prep and/or freeze any food you can make in advance
- Choose a place for gifts and games, somewhere to put coats and bags, etc.
- Buy or pickup any flowers and balloons
- If you have extra room in your freezer, buy some extra ice for drinks
- If the event is taking place in the house of the future mommy to be, take some time to do some deep cleaning, especially in high-traffic areas and the bathrooms
- Reach out one last time to anyone who hasn't given you their RSVP
- Buy any fresh fruits and vegetables and other last ingredients you'll need
- Call and verify arrangements with any vendors, bakeries, who will be helping out at the festivities

### **THE DAY BEFORE**

- Do any last-minute shopping and pickup any party needs you forgot
- Prepare the food
- Pick up the cake
- Set up and decorate the area the party will take place
- Think of a "hashtag" guests can use to collect photos on social media

### **PARTY TIME!**

- Designate a space for gift opening. Make sure to leave a good vantage point for the person in charge of documenting the event
- Gather filled-out game or cards to give to the mommy-to-be to
- Most importantly, have fun!

## MOST APPRECIATED GIFTS FOR BABY SHOWER

### DIAPERING

- Diapers
- Wipes
- Diaper cream or petroleum jelly
- Diaper bag
- Diaper changing pad
- Folding changing pad for diaper bag (if not part of bag)
- Diaper pail/other storage container

### NURSERY AND BEDDING

- Crib or bassinet, and appropriate mattress
- Mattress cover
- Tight-fitted bottom sheets
- Changing table
- Rocking chair or glider
- Mobile
- Nightlight
- Something to play music or white noise

### FEEDING

- Nursing pads
- Breast pump
- Bags or bottles for storing expressed breast milk
- Bags for transporting breast milk
- Burp cloths
- Nursing pillow
- 4-oz. bottles
- 6- or 8-oz. bottles
- Nipples
- Bottle and nipple brushes
- Bottle warmer
- Small unbreakable bowls
- Small spoons

- Bibs
- Sippy cups

## **SAFETY**

- Baby gates
- Baby monitor
- Drawer/cabinet locks
- Outlet covers/outlet plugs
- Corner protectors for furniture

## **BABY GEAR & FURNITURE**

- Car seat
- High chair
- Infant seat or baby swing
- Stroller
- Baby carrier: front pack, backpack, baby wearer, or sling
- Play yard or portable crib

## **CLOTHING**

- Receiving blankets
- Onesies/undershirts
- Rompers/bodysuits
- Tights or leggings
- Pants
- Dressy outfits
- Sweater or jacket
- Pajamas/sleepers
- Wearable blankets/baby gowns
- Socks
- Booties
- Hats
- Mittens
- Fleece outfit or snowsuit

## **BATHING, HEALTH & SKIN CARE**

- Baby bathtub
- Bathwater thermometer
- Baby size towels/hooded towels
- Small washcloths
- Soap or baby wash/cleanser
- Shampoo
- Lotion, cream, or moisturizer
- Sunscreen
- Baby nail clippers or scissors
- Petroleum jelly
- Baby toothbrush
- Thermometer
- Pacifier

### **BOOKS, TOYS & MEMORIES SAFE**

- Books
- Toys
- Music
- Photo frames/digital photo frames
- Baby quilt (for decoration – for safe keep out of crib)