

Infant Daycare Checklist

By Laura Cooper Peterson

- Finding Infant Daycare
 - Seek recommendations from friends, family members, or co-workers
 - Research the options a few months before the baby will be enrolled.
 - Compile a list of potential daycares.
 - Schedule appointments for visiting the facilities and meeting the staff.
- Selecting Infant Daycare
 - Verify that the daycare center is fully licensed.
 - Talk with the daycare director about the center's policies in regard to hours of operation, tuition costs, security systems and first aid procedures.
 - Spend time talking with the infant room caregivers.
 - Examine the layout and contents of the infant room.
 - Make sure the infant room is located in an area that is separate from classrooms with older children.
 - Make sure a restroom with a changing table, running water, and hand sanitizers is attached or near to the infant room.
 - Make sure the feeding area, bedding, toys, and infant belongings are kept clean and organized.
 - Make sure there is sufficient space for storing diaper bags.
 - Make sure there is a refrigerator for storing milk and baby food.
 - Make sure the infant room is baby-proofed.
 - Observe the infant room staff taking care of the babies.
 - Make sure the staff is highly trained, educated and experienced in infant development and care.
 - Make sure the daycare center offers continuity of care by having the same staff members care for your child each day.
 - Check if the daycare share important milestones that your child has reached.
 - Bring your baby to the daycare facility for short visits prior to enrollment.