

Baby Shower Checklist

By baby checklist

- Eight to ten weeks before the baby shower**
 - Guest list** If it is a surprise shower, ask for help from her family and friends to ensure no-one is left out.
 - Budgeting** Figure out how much funds are available, and allocate carefully.
 - Date** Pick a day when most people will be able to come - this is usually a weekend, and in fact, after church on Sunday is a traditional time.
 - Location** The home of a friend or family member, a restaurant or recreation center, or even the church family center are great places to hold a baby shower.
- Four to six weeks before the baby shower**
 - Theme** If you know the gender of the baby, this may be easy - if not, be creative
 - Invitations** Have invitations made up and sent out with directions to the location included.
 - Menu** Catered is best! Finger sandwiches and cake are traditional - sort of a 'high tea' type of party. Couples' parties may require more substantial food.
 - Registration** Now is the time for the mom and dad to register online - create a wish list that updates every time an item is purchased.
- Three weeks before the baby shower**
 - Flowers** Place your order for flowers - simple arrangements of baby breath and carnations or rosebuds are ideal for an elegant party
 - Balloons/banners** If you are having a more casual bash, go all out with balloons that match your theme and add a banner that guests can sign for a keepsake.
 - Seating** Reserve extra tables and chairs if needed to ensure everyone is comfortable. Make sure the expectant mom has a comfy place to sit.
 - Cake** A baby shower cake can be so fun and creative. Get one big enough for everyone to have a piece; half chocolate, half yellow or white is best.
- Two weeks before the baby shower**
 - Games** Decide what games you will play at the party, and get supplies
 - Prizes/favors** Games should have prizes, and you will want a favor for each guest to take home.
 - Dishware/flatware** Themed paper products and utensils should be stocked well in advance of the party.
 - Caterer** You should have nailed down a game plan and menu at this point, and all systems should be go.
- One week before the baby shower**
 - Guests** Check with invitees who haven't confirmed their attendance.
 - Video/photos** Make sure someone is designated to capture the event on film.

- Gifts** Purchase gifts for the shower, and check the wish list to ensure no major gifts are overlooked.
- The day of the baby shower**
 - Set up** Arrange for deliveries to be made early or even the day before to ease stress.
 - Cake** Pick up the cake or have it delivered in the morning.
 - Flowers** These should be delivered by the florist or picked up.
 - Gift list** Assign someone to keep track of who gave what in order to send out thank-you notes later.
 - Cleanup** Have large plastic bags placed in corners for easy discarding of wrapping paper and other trash during the event.