Bottle Recommendations for Preemies

Your baby may need bottle feeds, and there are many options for bottles to choose from in stores and online.

When choosing a bottle/nipple system for your baby, you may need to consider the different properties of the nipple that support feeding. These properties include:

- Shape
- Pliability of the nipple
- Hole size
- Air exchange within the bottle



Depending on your baby's oral motor pattern of eating, oral structure, strength, endurance and coordination, different nipple properties will support your baby's feeding.

Here are some types of bottles that are commonly used in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. In general, a good starting point for most babies is the Dr. Brown Preemie nipple as it has a softer texture, standard shape and slower flowing nipple.

If you need assistance with choosing a bottle/nipple system that is efficient and supports your baby's feeding, please speak to a member of your baby's care team to request a feeding evaluation.



Standard Nipples (narrow nipples)

Dr. Brown Preemie



Wide-Base Nipples Philips Avent Natural



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