



Tub-Safety Tips

Empty the tub completely immediately after each use—a baby can drown in as little as one inch of water.

Place a nonskid mat beneath your baby tub to prevent it from slipping.

Keep the toilet seat and bathroom doors closed after you leave.

Set your water heater to 120°F so your baby won't get scalded if she accidentally turns on the faucet.

Learn infant CPR. And never leave your baby alone in a bathtub or in the care of another child, even for half a minute.

Use a spout cover so she doesn't hit her head on the faucet.

FEAR FACTOR

Some babies absolutely love taking a bath. Others not so much. "If your baby hates the tub, don't force him to stay in the water," says Dr. Jennifer Shu. Instead, put him on a blanket or a towel and use a damp, warm washcloth to clean his face and body. Work on one body part at a time and keep the rest of him covered. Ease him back into the tub routine slowly. You might buy a few bathtime-only toys so he gets excited to play with something new. First, let him watch as you dunk the toys into the bathwater. After a few minutes, let the toys float and see if he reaches for them; if he does, try dipping his feet then his legs into the tub. "Babies aren't naturally afraid of the water," says Dr. Shu. "But they can be scared of the noise of running water or if water gets in their eyes." Fill the tub when he's out of the room, and be extra careful when you wash his face.

STOCK THE BATHROOM WITH THESE GOODIES



1 Quack! Quack!: Munchkin's Bubble Ducky Spout Guard covers the faucet to protect against bumps and burns. (\$5; kmart.com)

5 Bath Buddy: Drape this full-body washcloth over your little one to keep him warm while you wash him. (\$7; bathlove.com)

2 Go Fish: The Alex pop-up storage bag suctions to the bath wall and holds your baby's stuff. (\$13; amazon.com)

6 The No-Tub Tub: Soft, non-absorbent foam supports and cradles your baby in the sink. The tub hangs flat for easy travel and storage. (\$100; pujbaby.com)

3 Genius: Wear the Kangaroo Towel, by Small Made Simple, to keep you dry during bathtime, then keep your baby cozy in the pouch afterward. (\$40; mom4life.com)

7 Perfect for Newborns: This super-sensitive 2-in-1 shampoo and body wash is gentle on baby's skin. (\$10; californiababy.com)

4 Just Ducky: Little Quack's Bath Book is waterproof and comes with a detachable toy that inflates and floats. (\$7; amazon.com)

8 Bugged Out: Get playful in the tub with these terry-cloth finger puppets. They dry so quickly, you can put on a show at bedtime. (\$12; bambinomountain.com)