

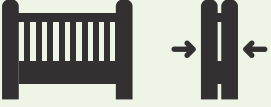



Cribs 101

Everything You Need to Find Your Baby's Dream Crib

Types of Cribs

Type	Price	Weight	Materials	Other Features
Convertible Cribs  Crib Toddler Bed Day Bed Full Bed	\$\$ More expensive (but more durable and comfortable)	 Heavier	Anything and everything, generally offer a wider variety of styles and finishes to choose from	Can convert to a toddler bed, day bed, and/or full bed for YEARS of value
Mini/Portable Cribs 	\$ Less expensive	 Lighter weight	Typically metal, wood composite, other softer weight woods	Can fold up to save space, but baby will probably outgrow it pretty quickly

Some Of Our Favorite Crib Styles



Arts & Crafts



Contemporary Modern



Mid-Century Modern



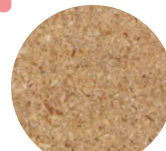
Farmhouse

Common Crib Materials

\$



Wood Veneer



MDF



Steel



Softwood (Pine)

\$\$



Acrylic Plastic



Hardwood (Oak, Maple)



Marble



Yes, Even Gold!

How Much Should a Crib Cost? That Depends...

Crib prices generally range from \$99 up into the thousands, although *most* cribs are under \$500



Entry-level cribs (<\$250)

Usually have a simple finish and basic, functional design, but can still be made with strong raw materials like pinewood



Mid-tier cribs (\$250-\$400)

Can be made with basic raw materials but might have a high-end detail or finish for a trendier look. The sweet spot between style, budget, and lasting value.



High-end cribs (>\$400)

Top-of-the line materials and finishes, more intricate design features, and usually crafted for long-lasting quality

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FAQs

When should I buy my baby's crib?



Try to start researching by **the sixth month of pregnancy**. Talk to friends, read online reviews, and check out cribs in person to get an idea of what you're looking for and what will best fit your space. **Buy your crib by the seventh month of pregnancy at the latest**; this will leave time for shipping, assembly, and – just in case – any returns or exchanges. You want to give yourself enough time to change your mind if you don't like how the crib fits your space.

Where is the best place to get a crib?



Online vs In-Store: Online shopping offers nearly infinite options and nursery design ideas, while checking a crib out in person allows you to touch the finish, see colors up close, and test out its sturdiness. There are some pretty great crib deals to be found online, though, and many online retailers offer fast, free shipping and a hassle-free returns process. It never hurts to see cribs in person, but buying online is generally easier for busy parents-to-be.

Second-hand or antique cribs: Unless you know the exact manufacturing date of a second-hand crib, you just can't be certain how safe your little one will be. 100-year old craftsmanship might be gorgeous, but did they think about slat widths and splinters and toxic materials back then? Getting a new crib gives you one less thing to worry about, as it will meet 100% of current federal safety regulations.

What else do I need?



You'll definitely want a [crib mattress](#) (we've got a handy [guide](#) for those, too!), and at some stage you might also want a **crib conversion kit** (including the all-important **toddler guard rail**). But honestly it's more about what you *don't* need: pretty accents like **bumpers** and **pillows** can actually be a big safety hazard; the best sleeping surface for a baby is a clear and relatively hard one!

Crib Safety Musts

- Register your crib with the manufacturer:** This only takes a couple minutes, and ensures you'll be notified promptly if there's any sort of safety recall
- Babies should always sleep alone:** Keep cribs clear of plush toys and soft bedding, which are both suffocation hazards
- Avoid crib bumpers:** They increase the risk of SIDS and other crib deaths. The *only* kind to even consider are the thin, breathable, mesh ones (and they're not even that cute, so why take the risk?).
- Ensure cribs have stationary sides** (drop-sides were banned in 2011)
- Crib slats should be no more than 2.375 inches apart**
- No cutouts in the crib's headboard or footboard** (to prevent baby's head getting trapped)
- Crib mattress should fit snugly against the inside of the crib:** If you can fit more than two fingers between them, it's not snug enough!
- Be sure to visit www.cpsc.gov/safesleep for all crib safety requirements**