



Clothing Your Children

Clothing can be very expensive. Families spend about 6% of their total budget on clothing each year. For a child this would be \$300-\$700 a year. Research tells us that the biggest help to clothing the child comes from the grandparents. In the past decade grandparents have become America's number one baby clothier. Here are some additional tips that may stretch your babies clothing allowance.

1. Choose a Larger Size

Babies grow fast. You'll be wasting money if you buy perfect fitting clothes because they'll soon be too small. Buying a larger size will extend the amount of time your baby can wear the clothing you purchase.

2. Know the Season

Think about clothes labels that state size in terms of a baby's age, such as 12 or 18 months. Then ask this question: "When my baby is X months old, what will the weather or temperature be like?" Buying for the right size and season can prevent wasting money on unusable clothing.

3. Find Easy To Put On Outfits

Sometimes you'll struggle to dress your baby into an outfit you want him to wear. Outfits that come in several pieces, button from behind or pull over the head may require more of your patience and time. Outfits that come in one piece, open in the front, have zippers, or snap buttons should be easier to deal with.

4. Have clothing for the Emergency

Babies are messy. They can spill, drop, or throw up on their clothing. When a messy accident occurs, you'll need a clean set of clothes ready for your baby to wear.

5. Save with Sale Items

You can save a bundle at the clearance racks. Almost every type of store has these. In addition, if you wait for a big sale you can save even more. Some stores will also markdown the clearance item further at the cash register.

6. Accept Hand Me Downs

Your family and friends may want to give you their children's baby clothes. They may have new clothes that their baby didn't have a chance to wear. If you decide to accept what they are willing to give, you'll save yourself some money, especially if they have clothing you would have bought.

7. Exchange Old Clothes for Cash

Sell the clothes your baby no longer fits into on eBay or at such stores as Kids to Kids. There are many other ways to trade your old clothes for cash. You may not make as much as you had originally paid for them, however, you'll at least earn some of your money back.



“Utah State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.”