

Pointers For Parents-To-Be

Practical Tips To Help Parents Prepare For Parenthood

(NAPS)—A baby may be a bundle of joy, but parenthood represents a major lifestyle change. A little preparation can help make the transition smoother for first-time parents.

Here are some practical tips for parents-to-be from the experts at Babiesrus.com and Amazon.com, who jointly operate one of the Web's most popular baby stores.

- An important first step is to become informed. Having a reliable how-to book or Web site to consult can make firsts, such as diaper changes and burps, less intimidating.

While you should read all you can about parenting, it's also important to remember that your pregnancy and child may be like no other and that what works for the experts may not work for you.

- Make lists. Find out what you will need and be sure you have at least the basics in your home a few months ahead of time.

Resources such as the New Parents' Checklist, one of many product suggestion lists on the Babiesrus.com site, take you through the absolute necessities (bottles, diapers, bedding, clothes, a reliable car seat, etc.), equipment to make the house safer for small children (safety plugs, crib bumpers, etc.) and baby gear to make life easier for moms and dads (a musical mobile, car toys, a changing table, and a rocking chair, etc.).

- Share your baby "wish list" with friends and family. The average American family spends up to \$7,000 on a new baby in its first year, but baby registries have become commonplace in helping to ease the financial burden for



Parents-to-be can baby themselves by shopping for the basics online.

expectant parents as they prepare for their new arrival. Registering at a well-known store that allows friends and relatives to easily access your registry online ensures gift-givers near and far will help you collect exactly what you want and need for your new baby.

A good online registry should simplify what can seem to be an overwhelming process. Registering online makes it easy for expectant parents to systematically browse thousands of baby products, view specific patterns and fabrics, and add complete nursery or gear sets to the registry with just a few mouse clicks.

Visitors to Babiesrus.com will find helpful information from Parenting.com, be able to shop from Amazon.com's latest selection of relevant books, music and videos and gain access to a vast selection of baby products and a convenient baby registry, all in one simple online trip.

For more information, visit www.babiesrus.com.