

# MOTHER GOOSE TOYS



**GUIDE  
TO  
BABY SHOWERS**  
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# ABOUT THE MOTHER GOOSE TOYS BABY SHOWER GUIDE

Because life is so busy, it's true that planning Baby Showers can be a bit overwhelming. Mother Goose Toys acknowledge this situation and as a result have put together a collection of resources for you. Most importantly a Baby Shower is a social event. A time for sitting and chatting, playing games and having lots of laughter & giggles. As the host you need to enjoy it too; That's why Mother Goose Toys has attempted to help you out a little.



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# HOSTING THE BABY SHOWER

## Who should host the Baby Shower?

In recent years it has become popular for showers to be given by Grandmothers-to-be, Sisters, Cousins, friends, co-workers or anyone close to the Mum. Many times more than one host will give the shower to share costs and responsibilities. As a Baby Shower coordinator I have noticed a sharp increase in the number of mums-to-be hosting themselves a Baby Shower. This is very acceptable, and guests happily come along to join in the fun and celebrations.

Originally, one Baby Shower would be thrown for a mum-to-be, but today many women have more than one party because they have different groups of friends, co-workers and family members.

## What are the host's responsibilities?

The host's most important job is to create an event that the Mother-to-be will be comfortable with. This includes getting the Mum-to-be to have input on many aspects of the shower (unless it is a surprise shower). Most importantly is who should be invited and what the date of the shower should be (she'll know more on the key guests schedules than the host will). The mum-to-be may also like to have involvement on the theme (if you are having a theme shower). The games, selection of food and how long the party will last is often the host's decision. The mum-to-be will probably have more fun if the games & prizes for the games are a surprise. The host is also responsible for making sure the Mum-to-be is taken care of, sending out the invitations, being the RSVP respondent, Greeting guests as they arrive, coordinating the activities such as gift opening, game playing and the food & beverages and be an active participant in the running of the shower.

## Budgeting for the Baby Shower

Mother Goose Toys suggest that you determine your Baby Shower budget early in your planning process. The budget can help determine the location of the Baby Shower, the food, decorations and more. People have a good time at Baby Showers because of the fun, games and social interaction, not because they ate from fine china plates and had linen napkins instead of disposable plates and paper serviettes.

If you have a smaller group, your home or someone else's may be a good option. Location and food are typically the biggest costs, so if you're able to host the baby shower at a home, you will save a significant portion of your budget that can be reallocated to food, decorations, etc.

If you have a large guest list, (unless you have a large area in your home) you may want to look for co-hosts because you're likely going to need to host the baby shower at a restaurant. Good co-hosts can be other close friends of mum-to-be or her family members. Family members may even just contribute money. Once you have a budget, you should make a list of all of the Baby Shower costs. If having it at a location other than a home remember Friday night or Saturday Baby Shower parties are usually more expensive than Sundays.

## Where should the shower be held?

Traditionally it is given in the home of the host, close friend or relative. In recent years many are held at restaurants, coffee shops, parks and clubs. It is always a good idea to check with venues to see if they have rules against playing games or other activities that happen at Baby Showers.

## When should a Baby Shower be held?

You will want to host the Baby Shower between four to eight weeks before the baby is due. With baby's due date in mind, decide on a few dates that you can host the Baby Shower. Contact important guests, especially out of town family, to make sure they are available on dates you have in mind. If mum-to-be hasn't been well it is a good idea for her to check with medical staff to determine if she would be released from hospital in the event that she spends some pre-birth time in care. Typically, the baby shower is thrown in an afternoon time on a weekend when everyone can attend.

## Consider a Welcome Baby Shower

Showers may also be held after the baby is born. Some people prefer the Welcome Baby Shower because baby gifts can be personalized and given in the correct size and style. This after the arrival shower is tradition in many cultures and religions so everyone can meet the new arrival. The newborn also becomes the star of the party and a great conversation starter. There are many reasons why some mothers and fathers to-be prefer having a Baby Shower after the baby is born. Welcome Baby Showers are becoming more popular where a party is thrown after the mum is out of the hospital and has time to recuperate. Throwing a Welcome Shower is fun, as you will already know what gender the baby is as well as the name.

It is fun to have the baby at the shower (even though most of it for them will be sleeping). It is important to make sure the new mum is involved as she may be a little tired and stressed at having people over too soon after the birth. Baby Shower gifts can still be given prior to the Welcome Shower by mailing them or dropping them off if they are functional and can be used when the baby comes home. Some friends and family like throwing both a Baby Shower before the baby is born as well as a Welcome Baby Shower after the arrival to make sure the parents have everything they need and to get them the baby supplies they may still be missing in the house. This is often a good idea if the mum has a large group of family and friends.

## Should a shower be given for the second or third child?

Of course, Baby Showers are held to show love and support for the mum-to-be and the new arrival. The family probably already has all the essentials so smaller, more practical gifts like, nappies, clothing, baby toys and Gift Certificates for the baby are gifts that are usually given. All 'new additions' to a family are miracles and deserve to be showered with love and gifts.

## Is an office Baby Shower appropriate?

Yes but you should check with company policy to see if there are rules against having a baby shower on the premises.



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## GUESTS

### Who should be invited to the shower?

The Mother-to-be should be involved with selecting the guest list, as it is her day. If the Baby Shower is to be a surprise for the new mum, a close friend or relative should help plan the guest list. Generally, anyone who is close to the Mum-to-be, relatives such as cousins, aunts and the Grandmothers-to-be, friends and co-workers are invited to help celebrate the new arrival. Please remember the mother-in-law (I coordinated a Baby Shower & the host had forgotten the mum-to-be's Mother-in-law, it was a stressful time instead of a happy shower).

### Creating the Baby Shower Guest List

The first step to planning and hosting a successful Baby Shower is to create a guest list. Creating the initial guest list will help you get an idea of how many people will ultimately be invited to the Baby Shower, which is the biggest factor in what your budget will be. Or should I say, set your budget and the number of guests will then determine the type of food, decorations, and game prizes.

It's always a good idea to find out if mum-to-be is going to have other Baby Showers hosted for her by another family member or friend. Talk to the mum-to-be or the other host about the other shower dates and invite list. Other than her immediate family members, you do not need to invite people that are attending the mum-to-be's other showers. In fact, they would most likely prefer to be invited to just the one, this way it remains a special moment that they have shared with the mum-to-be.

Make sure you have up-to-date addresses and phone numbers for everyone. Type out your guest name, including addresses and phone numbers. You will be able to use this guest list to keep track of RSVPs. Also give a copy to the mum-to-be so she has everyone's correct address to send Thank You cards. [Click here to download the Mother Goose Toys Guest List template.](#)

### How many guests should attend the Baby Shower?

The number of guests at a Baby Shower can range from 5 to 30. Anymore than this and activities get a little too challenging to host. I have coordinated Baby Showers with as little as 5 and as many as 35 and any number in between. All have been successful. The key to this is to very carefully select the games that will be played. For a small Baby Shower you can select games that take a little time individually whilst the other guests get to watch. However, these types of games need to be avoided for the large groups as they take up too much time, observers become bored with it and start to break off into smaller groups. So for the large Baby Showers it is best to select games that have everyone actively involved at the same time. Small or large Baby Showers are terrific fun.

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# INVITATIONS

## How should you invite people?

A written invitation is the best way to inform people about the Baby Shower. Hosts may call the guests and invite them but a written invitation contains all the specifics they will need, attempting to provide this over the phone is not always effective. When guests have a written invitation they can at least refer back to it for the date & time and other details.

## What information should be on the written invitation?

1. Who the shower is being given for.
2. Location including address.
3. Date and time of the shower,
4. Host/hosts name.
5. Who to RSVP to and their contact phone numbers and email address and a deadline for RSVP.
6. If there is a “Wishing Well”, Gift Certificate request or Gift Registry information and if there is a theme to the shower.
7. A map to the shower location may also be included.

## Invitations with a difference

Put the Baby Shower invitations inside a plastic baby bottle. Just buy cheap baby bottles, this idea works well when you are inviting a small number of guests.

Attach a Nappy Pin to the printed invitation and use wording like “pin this special date in your diary” on the invitation.

Get a baby photo of the mum-to-be and scan this on to the invitation.

Buy disposable nappies and with a felt pen write the invitation details on to the back of the nappy. Guests can be asked to bring the nappy to the Baby Shower, with the writing on the outside baby can still wear them.



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## GIFTS

It takes time and care to buy the right gift as a Baby Shower Present. We offer the following as some additional information to help you choose the right gift for the Mum to Be and New Baby. Mother Goose Toys allows you to shop by both brand and age in our online store.

### Newborn Gifts

Place baby safe (embroidered features, no button eyes) soft plush toys near baby; limit the number of toys to two or three, and at times only one. We know that not only can babies see, they learn from what they see. Through their sense of sight they learn quickly to differentiate between objects and human beings. Stationary objects. Babies spend a lot of time just looking at things. This isn't idle time, but learning time, learning from a toy. The soft plush toy range with beany weights to help them sit or stand are the ideal choice to place near baby. Kaloo and Mamas & Papas have the perfect selections of this type of toy. Baby may start to reach out to touch things near him or her so placing toys within reach will encourage the development of motor skills and eye coordination.

### 3-6 Months

In just a few short months you will notice big changes in your baby's development. At 3 months a baby will probably be able to; lift up their head, roll over, grasp a rattle, reach for an object and squeal in delight. By the time baby is 6 months, they will most likely be able to; bear some weight on legs when held upright, sit without support, object if you try and take a toy away, work to get a toy out of reach, pass a cube or other type of toy from one hand to the other, look for a toy when dropped, turn in the direction of noise such as their favourite musical toy, and make baby babble sounds. During these months toys which are best suited to baby are; Infantino Movers & Shakers, Mamas & Papas Press and Zoom Caterpillar, Tolo and Jolly Baby musical toys and chime toys. Rattles, Soft Plush Activity Toys, Teethers and tummy time play mats all make good choices for babies within this age range.

### 6-9 Months

During this timeframe baby will be sitting up and learning how to crawl, clapping hands, play peek-a-boo, stand holding on to something/one, play ball by rolling it back to you. At this age baby certainly objects when you try and take his or her favourite toy away. You might want to look for toys that will encourage your baby to crawl. Infantino Movers & Shakers and Mamas & Papas Press and Zoom Caterpillar are two of our favourites. The Tolo Roly Poly Chiming Clown and Chime Balls take on a new method of play, as baby goes from being happy to look and listen to these toys, to trying to crawl to them and pick them up when the toys are moving roly-poly in front of them. Other favourites at this stage are the Infantino Bucket Buddies & Baby Magician, and Tolo soft plush Activity Toys.

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## BABY SHOWER CHECKLIST

Confirm with the mum-to-be if she would like a Baby Shower.

### Set Date, Time & Location

Select a few date and time options.

Tentatively discuss the guest list.

Contact the most important guests like grandmothers-to-be, and determine which date is best suited to them.

Confirm the date and time with the mum-to-be.

Decide upon the location and confirm the availability for your chosen date.

### Invitations

Confirm who is to be invited.

Purchase or make the invitations.

Send out invitations approximately 4 to 6 weeks prior to the Baby Shower - this allows guests to plan travel arrangements. (Believe me as a Baby Shower Co-ordinator I know that grandmothers and aunts-to-be will drive long distances and also fly to get to the big event).

### Themes and Games

Discuss Baby Shower themes (from my experience many people choose not to have a theme, however, themes can be important to others).

Decide upon the Baby Shower Games. At the Mother Goose parties that I coordinate we generally play 5 games. I keep the really funny ones until last; so that everyone is feeling cheerful by the time it's ready to enjoy the food. By using this strategy, I find that the guests have relaxed and are happy to chat over coffee & cake.

### Prizes and Gifts

Buy prizes for the Baby Shower Games. Remember some of the games won't have an actual winner; they are just a fun activity/game. So make sure you don't end up buying more prizes than you actually need. Gift Certificates make a great gift idea. Other great prizes are: nappies, baby wipes, baby wraps, baby wash, jars of baby food and plants. It is still tradition for game winners to give the prize to the mum-to-be.

Purchase and wrap your Baby Shower Gift.

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## Preparations and Decorations

Buy decorations for the Baby Shower.

Phone those guests who have not RSVP'd.

If you are hosting the Baby Shower in a home, then purchase the disposable plates, cups, spoons, cutlery, napkins etc. If the Baby Shower is at a restaurant etc., then phone to confirm the numbers.

Clean and tidy your home.

Prepare dishes that can be frozen.

Arrange transportation for the Mum-to-Be.

Arrange for someone to record names and gifts given to the Mum-to-be, for two reasons. One so the mum-to-be can post Thank You cards, and two so that a record of the guests and their special gifts can be included as part of the baby book details.

Write out a timeline that you can follow to keep things on schedule such as put out cold water/drinks, play games, eat food, open gifts, have dessert etc.

Charge digital camera batteries.

## The Day Before the Baby Shower

Decorate for the party.

Set up tables and chairs.

Set up a gift table.

Go to the bakery if a special cake has been ordered.

Make the remaining food on your list.

Spot clean your home.

Pick up flowers or centrepieces if these have formed part of your decorations.

Make sure you have enough ice.

Place several garbage receptacles in key areas so guests don't leave plates, napkins and trash on the tables.

## As The Guests Arrive

Greet each guest at the door and let them know where the refreshments are and the toilet is.

Introduce guests to one another. Have a comfortable chair ready for the Mother-to-be. You may need to put a reserved sign on it. Introduce the activities as they begin, explain the rules for games, announce when the meal/food is ready and gift opening begins. Invite the mum-to-be to say a few words to express her appreciation.

## As The Guests Leave

As each guest leaves bid them farewell and thank them for coming and for participating in the games and activities.



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# BABY SHOWER SPECIAL TOUCHES

## Future Birthday Messages

Write the numbers five through 21 down on small pieces of paper and put them in a hat or bowl. Have each guest choose a number and write a letter to the baby to be opened on a future birthday (for example, whoever drew number five would write a letter for the baby's fifth birthday). This works particularly well at showers where the guests are family members or very close friends. Provide envelopes so that the special messages can be sealed. Provide envelopes which you write, "do not open until your 5th Birthday" etc. Make sure the envelope birthday age matches the message inside.

## Create a Time Capsule

Make a time capsule for the baby. In the invitations, ask everyone to bring in something that would fit into a 1 or 2-litre jar. The best items are things for the baby to have or read when he or she is older. People have brought in newspaper articles, messages to the baby written on paper or recorded on a CD or DVD, photographs, mementos, the latest fashion craze in small toys, even jewellery. Anything will work as long as it fits into the jar.

## Write a Book

Buy or make a small blank book. Make sure the first page is special by outlining the Baby Shower details, like the date, parents-to-be, list of guests attending etc. Ask each guest to write a piece of advice in the book for the mother-to-be or parents-to-be. Please ensure the guests also write their name. Guest can write tips, advice; nice stories sharing some of their treasured baby moments, poems, quotes, a wish or proverb for the baby or something original.

## Make a Keepsake

Have everyone personalise a baby T-shirt or grow suit. Before the party, buy a white or light-colour garment (depending on the number of guests you made need a few). You will need a few small, flat pieces of cardboard to slip inside the clothes to make them easier to write on. Also pick up fabric paint or permanent fabric ink pens. Have the guests decorate the clothes any way they want — and make sure they sign them. People can take turns throughout the shower. When they're done, hang them up to dry on a clothesline or use baby hangers. If you have to buy more than one item then buy different sizes. That way, the gifts last longer as the baby grows out of some and into others.



[Annabel Trends Grow Suit](#)  
Babytalk by Annabel Trends  
have designed fun play suits (grow  
suits) sized to fit 6 - 9 months. If babies  
could talk what would they like to say?

## Pacifier Corsage or Rattle for the Mum-to-be

Special corsages can be made for the mother-to-be by creative fingers. You need a new pacifier or rattle, tulle, small silk flowers with wrapped wire stems, ribbon, and a diaper pin.

Take the pacifier (or rattle) and use it as a centerpiece for the corsage. It is best to get a pacifier with the two holes in the plastic (one at each side of nipple) so that it can be secured tightly. The tulle should be a long rectangle. Fold it like a fan and then pinch it at the bottom. Tie a length of ribbon around the pinched part of the tulle. Then take the ends of the ribbon and place one end through each hole. Tie the ribbon into a bow in the front/nipple part of the pacifier. The ribbon can be secured to the tulle with a dab from a hot glue gun (or try small safety pins. Try not to glue the pacifier itself so that it can be reused. If it does get something on it, don't worry though as the dried glue is usually not too difficult to peel from plastic.

Gently use your fingers to separate and spread out the tulle at the top. Use the flowers and extra ribbons to decorate. The corsage is pinned to the mommy-to-be using a diaper pin.

### Winkel Teether & Rattle

The Winkel is a Multi Award Winning High Quality Teether from the Manhattan Toy Company. It is made from pliable plastic, which just asks to be chewed.



If you don't have the time to make a corsage or have some extra money, you can buy a pacifier and take it to a florist shop. They should be able to make a great corsage incorporating the shower's colours and the pacifier.

## Make a Wish Necklace

Give each guest two beads. Then pass around a beautiful piece of strong thread that is knotted at one end. Each guest is requested to put one of their beads on the thread and say something that they wished for the expectant mum. After the thread has passed all the way around once, start it again. This time, ask each person to put their second bead on the thread and say something they wished for the new baby. When guests have finished, tie the ends together to make a necklace. The mum-to-be can wear this special necklace and reflect on what a wonderful event her Baby Shower was. Or for a bit of superstitious fun the expectant dad could wear it during labour and delivery so that everyone's wishes would come true.

## Have a Baby Shower Celebration Cake

Make or order a special Baby Shower Cake. Put one candle per guest in the cake. Each guest is requested to light a candle and to make a wish – out loud – for the baby. Then, like a birthday cake the mum-to-be has to blow the candles out and make her own wish.



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# How to make a Diaper Cake

## Materials

- Medium disposable nappies (diapers) approximately 50.
- A large round platter
- Adhesive tape.
- 21.5 metres (70 feet) of narrow gift ribbon.
- 2.46 metres (8 feet) of pretty, wide ribbon.

The colour of the ribbon will depend on whether the gender of the baby is known and publicly announced to family and friends.

To decorate the outside of the nappy cake you will need:

- Rattles
- Pacifiers
- Bibs
- A plastic baby bottle (filled with lollies)
- And other assorted useful small baby items



Roll the Nappies (diapers). First, cut approximately half of the narrow ribbon into 30 cm (one-foot) lengths. If you want the printed decoration on the nappy (diaper) to show, roll each nappy (diaper) from the fold outwards. If not, roll the other way. Tie each rolled nappy (diaper) with a 30cm (one-foot) length of narrow ribbon.

Now it's time to make the tiers of the three-tier cake. Begin with the largest tier. Create using approximately 27 rolled nappies or diapers. Tie an inner circle of about 14 diapers together using a length of narrow ribbon.

Stand another row of rolled nappies or diapers around that inner circle of rolled nappies/diapers and tie using another length of narrow ribbon. Tack the largest tier of the cake to the platter using several pieces of adhesive tape. Use adhesive tape sparingly so it doesn't rip the nappies/diapers when the mother-to-be disassembles it.



## Baby Boo Baby Bib (Cow)

This amusing Cow bib is made from soft towelling fabric with Velcro neck tabs for easy use. The dangling feet makes meal times fun for babies.

Create the second tier out of approximately 15 rolled nappies/diapers. Tie once again using another length of narrow ribbon. Attach the second tier centred on top of the first (largest tier) with more adhesive tape.

Get you tall baby bottle filled with small lollies and tie five or six of the rolled nappies (diapers) around it using yet another length of narrow ribbon. Place the final top tier centred on top of the second tier and attach as you did with the others.

Tuck various baby accessories inside the ribbon. Add more ribbon if necessary to keep them secure. Finish the cake with the wide ribbon wrapped around each tier to help secure the accessories and provide a finishing touch.



Pokie Dot Dog Rattle  
 This beautiful Blue Pokie Dot Dog Rattle is designed to accommodate baby's ability to hold objects. When babies first start to pick-up items they actually grasp them. This rattle is shaped to allow this natural development.



Jittery Jungle Pal - Elephant  
 Babies love movement, so watch their delight when the elephant jitters and rattles. Pull the cord; watch and listen as it 'jitters' back up. The elephant's feet rattle with movement and the crinkle fabric ears that crunch when touched.

## The History of Baby Showers

The Baby Shower has been stated by many sources to have originated in the late eighteen hundreds and received its name from the "showering" of love and gifts for the mum-to-be. The Baby Shower started as a tea party for only women who would share the day with the mum-to-be and her female family members. The gifts given to the new mum were very practical in nature as well as handmade. In Australia the Baby Boomer years followed by the next generation lost some interest in holding Baby Showers. Many say this was as of a result of the 2-income family and the need for the mum-to-be, to be working for as long as possible during the pregnancy. Mother Goose Toys is happy to say that as the Baby Boomers become grandmothers, Baby Showers have made a huge come-back. A Baby Shower was originally offered for the first baby of the mum-to-be but that tradition has changed. In today's society where we strive to maintain equity and set out to diminish some of the second and third child syndromes, we do our very best at treating each baby as a 'new bundle of joy'. Why should the second, third or fourth baby miss out on such an important celebration? All 'new additions' to a family are miracles and deserve to be showered with love and gifts. In actual fact some mums experiencing second & third pregnancies are faced with family challenges and can do with a 'showering' of love to help boost their self-esteem.

Immersed in history and tradition the Baby Shower celebrations are evolving and changing in the 21st century. Whether you are looking for the perfect Baby Shower Gift or seeking information on how to host a Baby Shower, Mother Goose Toys is here to share as much as possible with you. As co-owner of Mother Goose Baby Showers I spend much of my time planning, coordinating and running Baby Showers. It's now time for me to share my knowledge with the world by providing free electronic printable downloads to you.

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## BABY SHOWER GAMES

### Who should receive the prize from the Baby Shower games?

It is still tradition for the game winner to hand the prize to the guest of honour. In this case the game winner would give the prize to the mum-to-be. You can play 4 – 5 games to really get into the party atmosphere. Not all games will have a winner; this means that a prize is not required for all games. As a result it allows the host/hosts to spend a little more money on the prizes for those games that do have a winner. Gift Certificates make a great choice as prizes - they are available in our store now.

There are a large variety of Baby Shower Games, and we have chosen our favourites for this guide:

Blindfolded Baby Feed.

What's in the Baby Bag?

Measure Mums Waist/Stomach.

Find a word.

Nappy on a balloon race.

Name that Baby Tune Artist.

Name the Baby Animal.

Guess the Nursery Rhymes.

Mummy's Name Game.

Heavy Purse.

What's That Smell?

Sing a Nursery Rhyme Puzzle.

Things you don't need.

Mum-to-be's Name Game.

Remember that one?

Baby.

Digital Camera.

Un-scramble.

Never say "Baby"

Mother-To-Be's Baby

"B" is for Baby

Fastest Baby Bottle Drinker.

Big Belly Race.

"While you were video" out.

Dirty Diaper Game.

Option 2 Little Nappy Game

Baby Picture Match.

"It takes two"

Guess the Baby Food.

Draw the baby game.

Multi-tasking Dad.

The Cotton Ball Game

What's in a Purse?

Nametag Game.

Pins in the Rice.

Whose Baby Is Born First?

What is in the bottle?

Potato drop.

Stand Up.

Name Baby Items Can You

Place The Baby On Mum

Know Mummy-To-Be



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## Blindfolded Baby Feed

What you do is pair up 2 people and blindfold each of them, or just ask them to close their eyes, as this is much simpler. Give one of them a jar of baby food or a small bowl of pre-made instant pudding (as baby food doesn't taste the best) and a baby spoon. Then have them try to feed the other person while they are both blindfolded. The pair that finishes first makes it to the mouth and creates the least mess wins. This game is really funny and you want to make sure that you have the camera or video handy.

## What's In the Baby Bag?

You will need a bag and put a bunch of baby accessories (pacifier, bottles, diapers, wipes, etc.) anything you can think of that you need for a baby bag. Put the baby bag on a table or floor (where ever the guest can see it) and take out all the things from the bag. Have them look at it for 2-3 minutes and put it away. Each player will have to memorise what's in the bag and whoever has the most correct items memorised wins.

## Measure Mums Waist/Stomach

First you have to get a ball of wool, or string or cheap ribbon. Let everyone know that they have to decide how big the mother-to-be waist/stomach is. Take the ball of wool and let each guest individually tell you where to cut the wool, after everyone has their piece of wool; they then need to place their wool around the waist/stomach of the mother-to-be. Who's ever piece of wool is the closets wins a prize. This is a nice and fun game to play. If you don't want to spend the money on wool or ribbon, then just get the guests to guess the stomach measurement. As the host you then measure the stomach of the mum-to-be, at the biggest point of course. This always creates lots of laughter at the Mother Goose Baby Showers.

## Find a word

Google 'create your own find a word puzzles'. Think of about 30 different words associated with babies and pregnancy and use these to create your own find a word puzzle. Step-by-step create your own puzzles on a variety of web sites are quick and easy to follow. You then just print one per guest. You can even personalise this game by including the mum-to-be name, month that baby is due, and dads name etc.

## Put a nappy on a balloon race

Pin the nappy on a balloon ~ great for co-ed (women and men guests) showers. The parents-to-be, or other baby shower guests, race to put (the old-fashioned cloth and pin) nappy on a balloon. Whoever finishes first without popping the balloon, wins.

## Name that Baby Tune Artist

I searched my CD collection for songs using the word 'Baby'. I wanted to cover a range of time periods to give the older mums and the younger mums a better chance at guessing the artists. I had songs such as Cat Stevens (Wild World), Peter Frampton (Baby, I love your ways), the Supremes, and the Drifters, as well as current singers that I found in my teenage daughters collection. I would begin playing the song and the first person to yell out the correct artist got a point. At the end of the game, I gave a prize to the top two guessers.

## Name the Baby Animal

Make a list of mother animals such as horse, and then ask each guest to put down the name of the baby version, foal. Cat – kitten. It is amazing how many people really don't know. Make sure you get a mix of animals, some easy and some a little more unusual.

## Guess the Nursery Rhymes

Go through your collection of nursery rhyme books, perhaps they are stored away from when the mum-to-be was a child. Select about 20 Nursery Rhymes. Take one line from the nursery rhyme and ask the guest to write down the name of it. Do up a list of about 20 on the computer. Just 2 columns, the first column you type in the line and then the second column is just a dotted line for the guests to record their answer. This is a favourite at Mother Goose Baby Showers. Often the guests will know the words to the nursery rhyme, but just can't think of what it's called.

## Mummy's Name Game

Write down the Mother-To-Be's first and last name. Each person has a piece of paper and a pen. Set a timer for 5 minutes. Each person, using the letters of mum-to-be's name, creates as many words as they can in that 5-minute period. When the timer goes off, each person counts the number of words they have. The person with the most words wins a prize.

## What's That Smell?

This baby shower game is a bit of silly fun. Get four to six disposable nappies. Each nappy should contain different smells, which can be various things. For example in nappy 1 - orange juice, nappy 2 - hot sauce, nappy 3 - chicken gravy, nappy 4 - cloves, nappy 5 - cinnamon, nappy 6 - mayo. Give each guest a pen and paper to put responses on. Have guests close their eyes and smell each nappy. Then guess what each is whoever gets the most answers correct wins. Please remember to number the nappies and you need to write down what each is. As a correct answer you would want them to say "chicken gravy" not just "gravy", 1/2 a point could be give for just "gravy".

## Sing a Nursery Rhyme Puzzle

Photocopy a number of nursery rhymes; keeping the rhymes separate, cut them up into about 15 to 20 pieces; place each one in an envelope. Everyone gets into groups and you should have about four or five per team. Every group gets an envelope. (Inside every envelope is a puzzle you prepared earlier). Basically, it is a nursery rhyme on paper cut into pieces so the group has to put it all together. The first group to put it together is the winner. But there's a catch, whoever finishes first has to stand up (as a group) and sing the nursery rhyme. It is hilarious! People are so happy to have won, until you tell them (after winning) that they have to get up and sing.

## Dirty Diaper Game

This is a pretty funny Baby Shower game, although some guests find it a little gross. You need 6 disposable nappies and 6 different small chocolate bars. Number the nappies 1-6 and make a list 1-6 of which chocolate bar is in each nappy. Put the chocolate bar in the nappy and put it in the microwave until it melts (warning this doesn't take long) but not all the way because you want it to look as if you just changed a dirty nappy. You pass the nappy around and have the guest's guess what kind of chocolate bar is in each nappy. Whoever guesses the most right wins the Baby Shower prize.

## Things you don't need

Give every one a brown paper bag tell every one once the game starts everyone is to put the paper bag over their head and they can remove it once someone has won the game. Have every one put the bag over there head (with no peeking) and tell every one to take something off they don't need, keep asking guests to take items off they don't need until some one removes the paper bag - because really why do you need a paper bag over your head? This is very funny; you will be shocked how far it goes. Whoever removes the paper bag wins the game.

## Fastest Baby Bottle Drinker

Fun Baby Shower Game Idea, this is a good one! You'll learn just how hard it is to drink out of a baby bottle!! This Baby Shower Game is fabulous for co-ed (women and men guests) Baby Showers. Fun for daddy's to do this. Have a few cheap plastic baby bottles filled with something ready to drink. Start a timer...the person who is done drinking first is the winner. (Please note it is more difficult to drink out of a baby bottle then you think, so the smaller baby bottles are best to use.)

## Big Belly Race

Funny Baby Shower Game Idea, this is an excellent couples or co-ed (women and men guests) shower idea. Blow up some balloons, have all the men in the room (or women) put one under their shirts, and then have a "RACE" to see which one of them can tie their shoes the fastest. If the women aren't wearing lace-ups then just get them to do the buckles on their sandals. If they don't have buckles then you can always pretend to tie up laces. The mum-to-be will get a laugh from this Baby Shower Games.

## "While you were video" out

with the dad answering pre-asked questions on a video. Have 2 gifts; one for the mum-to-be that was a dud and one that was a great gift. Tell the mum-to-be if she can guess what your husband/partner said to certain questions you would win, choices were "A or B present. The present won is dependant upon her answers. After she answers the questions show the video of him answering the same questions. You need to keep the Baby Shower happening so ask short sharp questions.

## Baby Picture Match

A simple Baby Shower Game Idea, providing your guests remember to bring their baby photo to the Baby Shower. Have your guests each bring a baby picture of themselves. Pass around the baby pictures and see which guests can match the person at the shower with the baby picture. Whoever selects the most correctly is the winner!!



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## It takes two

This is a novel Baby Shower Game Idea. Get two people and/or couple have them stand side by side. For example: man on left - woman on right. Have man's right hand and woman's left hand to assist each other in dressing a "baby DOLL". Each person can only use one hand. Two hands in total are used, but you will be surprised how hard it is. As tiny as some babies may be it's amazing how difficult it is to dress them.

## Guess the Baby Food

Personally I think this is a bit of a yucky Baby Shower Game, however, it can be lots of fun watching peoples faces. Buy four or five different flavoured baby food. Remove each label from the jars & number each jar. On a poster board tape the labels from the jars, have the guest try to match them with the right baby food. Just make sure you write the correct answer down so you can check them once everyone is done. This is really fun and a lot harder then you might think. Buy plenty of small plastic spoons or wooden paddle pop sticks, as each guest will need one per jar to avoid double dipping.

## DRAW THE BABY GAME

Each guest is given a white paper plate and a colour pencil, crayon, or marker. Have each guest hold the paper plate on top of his or her heads and draw a picture of the baby. Guests get a "big bang" out of each other's pictures! Have each guest sign the back of their pictures and give them to the new mum as keepsakes.

## Multi-tasking Dad

this game is especially fun for co-ed parties (women and men guests). Have two people hold up a clothesline. Give the "victim" (male participant) a baby doll to hold, a telephone to talk on, and a basket full of clothes to hang with clothes pegs. The timer begins whenever the dad receives a phone call (someone can call him from a cell phone). He must then proceed to have a conversation, hold the baby and hang out the clothes—all at the same time! This is hilarious and the men get a taste of what a multi-tasking Mum does all day. A number of male guests can take it in turns and the one to hang out the most clothes would be the winner.

## The Cotton Ball Game

This Baby Shower game is done in pairs, while other guests watch on, waiting for their turn. Get 2 people blind folded or just ask them to close their eyes. Give them each a big plastic cooking bowl. One large bowl is full of cotton balls (tip don't buy the real cheap ones as they stick together). The other bowl is empty. The guest with the full bowl is given a large spoon. This guest feeds the baby by transferring the cotton balls from the full bowl to the empty bowl. The bowls are not allowed to be touching.

## What's in a Purse?

This is a baby shower that takes little planning. First you have the mother-to-be make a list of things (about 5 things), just anything. Like a spoon; a bill, a photo, 2 dollar coin, or nail polish, photo etc. You would be surprised what some women have in their purse. The first person that shouts out "I've got that", wins a baby shower game prize. You can have a winner for each item or you can have one overall winner.

## Nametag Game

If you have mainly women at the baby shower this game can be a lot of fun. Each guest is given a nametag. Each nametag had an interesting word such as diaper, nappy, baby food, wipes, nipples, pacifier, baby blanket, etc. When the guest received her nametag that automatically became her new name for the duration of the Baby Shower. If guests are caught using someone's real name they have to put money (coins of any amount) in a special basket for the baby. It will be quite funny hearing everyone making comments like, "Is that present from Wipes?" and "Diaper, will you please pass me a napkin?"

## Mum-to-be's Name Game

Mum-to-be's name long ways on sheets of pink or/and blue paper. You then ask the guests to think of baby names beginning with each of the letters in her name. Mum-to-be can take these home for a bit of a laugh to share with her partner.

## Pins in the Rice

This is a funny feeling Baby Shower Game. Buy a 2 kg packet of home brand rice. Put the uncooked rice into a large sized kitchen bowl. Borrow or buy a good amount of safety pins, the old style nappy pins are the best, and yes you can still buy them at Coles and Woolworths. Put the pins in the bowl. The game is conducted in pairs. With one person holding the bowl and the other blindfolded or closes their eyes. The baby shower guest who can pull out as much pins in the rice wins. It is a really funny baby shower game to watch.

## Remember that one?

The mum-to-be writes a list of 20-30 nursery rhyme questions example, who did Simple Simon meet while going to the fair? Guests are all given a piece of paper, and have 3 minutes to answer as many as possible. You'll be surprised at how much we have all forgotten about our beloved childhood nursery rhymes. You'll find that you will kick yourself at times for not remembering the silly easy ones.

## Whose Baby Is Born First?

This is a terrific first baby shower game. Go to a craft store and buy some of those little (tiny) plastic babies that you can use on decorations. It is real simple all you have to do is fill up some ice trays then drop the little babies in them. Put them in the freezer and make sure they freeze all the way. When you are ready to start the baby shower games you give each guest a small plastic cup with the ice cube in it. The object of the game is to see "whose baby is born first". They are not allowed to take the baby out of the cup. It will be so funny to see people try to defrost that little baby (also to see who is cheating).



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## What is in the bottle?

Get a brand new bottle and stuff it full of either baby safe ear cleaners or cotton balls (make sure you count them!). Pass the bottle around and have each guest write on a piece of paper how many they think are in the bottle. The closest one to the actual number wins. The bottle can go to the mum-to-be as a useful gift!

## Digital Camera

Designate someone to have a digital camera...as each guest arrives take a photo of him or her with the mother-to-be. Then develop the pictures in duplicate; mailing one back with your thank you note/card and other set becomes a keepsake for the mother-to-be. Make sure the Thank You cards and envelopes are large enough to hold a 4x4 or 4x6 photo. Also, buy a photo album so the mother will have a ready-made keepsake. I've done this at bridal and baby showers and everyone loves to get a picture back as a memento with the thank you.

## Potato drop

This is a Baby Shower Game that is a little different. Take a good size potato and a jar large enough to easily hold the potato. Place the jar on the floor, stand about 3 metres from the jar, then put the potato between your legs around your close to knees and walk and try to drop the potato into the jar, with out using your hand only your knees. This game is lots of fun.

## Un-scramble

make a list of baby items, or things that associate with a baby. Scramble the spelling of the words, so that they are difficult to read. Print enough for each guest. Use a timer for this game, and see who can unscramble the most words in a certain amount of time. The winner receives a gift!

## Stand Up

Everyone stands up and the host and or the mum-to-be turn her back to the people. She then starts to say things like "if any one has red nail polish on sit down", "if you have lip stick on sit down", this continues until only one person is left standing. This is a very simple Baby Shower that can give you a great laugh.

## Never say "Baby"

(Materials- baby safety pins you can place on a string for each woman at the party as well as string or yarn, enough for each woman to wear as a necklace). Have each woman place the necklace with the baby safety pins around her neck when she gets to the party. The rules for this baby shower game are given out at the beginning of the baby shower, that whenever someone says the word "baby" during the shower, any woman who hears it first gets a pin from the other woman who stated the word. At the end of the baby shower, the woman with the most pins wins a prize.

## How Many Baby Items Can You Name

(Materials- piece of paper and pen for each guest). Have each guest write down as many baby products as they can name (bottle, blanket, pacifier, etc) within 5 minutes. Sure it is easy at the beginning, but towards the last few minutes, the women will start racking their brains for more). Give a prize to the woman who gets the most baby products named!

## Mother-To-Be's Baby

Materials you will need to gather are Baby magazines, Scissors, Glue, and Paper. Have the guests group up into teams of 3 and give each 3 or 4 baby magazines. Have them cut out pieces of different baby qualities and put together a picture of what they think the Mother-To-Be's baby will look like. Have the Mother-To-Be pick which baby would possibly look like hers the best. One of the top baby shower games.

## Place The Baby On Mum

(Materials- Cut-outs of a baby with tape and blindfold). This is another one of our favourite baby shower games. It is the baby shower version of Pin The Tail on the Donkey. Blindfold each participant and then give him or her a paper baby to then approach the mum and place the baby as close to the tummy as possible. The one who gets closest to placing the paper baby on the pregnant tummy wins the prize. The trick is the participants aren't allowed to touch the mum with their other hand. So basically where they first put the paper baby is the spot they have chosen.

## "B" is for Baby

(Materials paper and pens passed out to all the baby shower guests). Each guest is told to write the babies Mum-To-Be and Father-To-Be's name on a paper going vertically down the page. Next to each letter of both names, create a word that is baby related or things that kids like. An example of using the names Kim and Tim:

K= kite      T=toys  
I= ice cream    I=ink  
M= mother    M=make believe

## Know Mummy-To-Be

(Materials- Pre-Printed Form and pen for each baby shower guest). Have each women guess what features he/she wants most on the baby from either the mum-to-be or her husband/partner (Daddy-To-Be). An example of this idea is found below:

Attribute	Mummy	Daddy
Eyes	X	
Ears	X	
Nose	X	
Legs	X	
Hair		X
Smile	X	
Intelligence		X
Humour	X	

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