Preparing for Your Baby’s Safety

Items to Prepare 2-3 Months Before Expected Delivery

Places Where Baby Will Spend the Most Time

**Crib**
- No drop-side cribs.
- Firm mattress that fits close to crib sides.
- Crib slats/bars not farther apart than 2 3/8 inches.
- No bumper pads, pillows, toys, or loose blankets.

**Bassinet/Cradle**
- Firm, thin mattress with no space between it and the sides.
- Sides high enough so baby cannot fall out.
- Stable and cannot be knocked over.
- Cradle that cannot swing high enough to overturn.

**Change and Dress Baby – Table, crib or floor**
- Uncluttered, firm surface.
- Stable, not slippery.

**Bathing Baby – in baby tub, tub placed in big tub or regular bathtub.**
- Non-slippery surface.
- Set water heater no hotter than 120°.
- Don’t use baby bath seat because it can tip over easily.

**Playpen**
- If has slats, no wider than 2 3/8 inches apart.
- If net, closely woven.
- Sturdy, sides can’t collapse.
- Firm cushion, no bumper pads.

**Infant Car Seat**
- Use seat approved by federal agency.
- Install rear-facing, 45° angle.
- Install in back seat of vehicle.
- Check directions carefully to install correctly and have it checked by a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician.

**Infant Carrier – Can’t use as car seat**
- Plastic with cushioned lining.
- Baby should be belted in.
- Use only for infants 1-6 weeks because it tips easily when baby moves.
- Can’t be used on shopping cart unless belted/attached.

**Safety – Environment**
- Mother should not use alcohol, drugs, or tobacco.
- Rest and eat a healthy diet.
- Maintain strength for delivery and when baby comes home.
- Keep floors and stairs clear/good condition.
- Maintain home temperature at around 70°.