

Highchairs

CHEAT SHEET >> THINGS TO THINK ABOUT BEFORE YOU BUY

Know your options.

Become acquainted with the kinds of highchairs.

Standard: A seat made to accommodate babies and tots during mealtime that commonly includes a tray.

Convertible: A seat that boasts more than one function; some highchairs can be converted into booster seats or youth-sized chairs, and others transform into swings or bouncers.

Lifetime use or grow-with-me: A seat that boasts the ability to grow with baby through adulthood; chairs of this nature can often hold adults up to 250 pounds.

Hook-on: A seat that clamps onto most any dining table; this variety of chair requires minimal space and is typically travel-friendly.

Space-saving or booster seat: A seat or toddler chair that works in conjunction with a standard dining chair; space-saving seats can be used with infants, whereas boosters are made for children who have outgrown highchairs but are too small for adult-sized chairs.

Determine your needs.

Ask yourself these questions to find out which type of highchair is right for your lifestyle.

1. What sort of space limitations (both while in use and stored away), if any, do you need to bear in mind?
2. How mobile will the highchair need to be? Do you intend to move it around the kitchen or take it with you when you dine out or travel?
3. What kind of lifespan do you envision for the highchair? How early would you like to use it? Would you like it to last through baby's toddler years or beyond?
4. Is form important to you or solely function? Would you like the seat to blend with your décor?
5. Are you a neat freak? A mess maker? Would you prefer a seat with parts that are dishwasher safe or machine washable? Or does a wipeable chair sound more appealing?

Find your fit.

Mark the features you desire in a highchair in the first column, then use the remaining columns to compare models you're considering and clarify which best meet your requirements.

FEATURE	IMPORTANT TO ME	OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3
SEAT:				
Height-adjustable				
Machine washable upholstery				
Recline: A seat that tilts can be a convenient feature for the youngest of babes.				
Swivel				
Wipeable				
TRAY:				
Adjustable: Some parents attest the ability to eliminate space between baby and tray can reduce mealtime messes.				
Dishwasher-safe				
Generous size				
Removable: An easy-to-remove tray can make for better access when putting baby in or taking baby out of the seat.				
Swivel				
MISCELLANEOUS:				
3-point harness				
5-point harness				
Adjustable foot rest				
Folds for storage: Consider where the seat will live when not in use.				
Storage compartment				
Weight limit: Write in your ideal weight range for a highchair and note the ranges of the chairs you're considering.				
Wheels				



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