

CHEAT SHEET >> THINGS TO THINK ABOUT BEFORE YOU BUY

1 Know your options.

Become acquainted with the kinds of strollers.

Full-size: A well-equipped stroller with ample seat space, padding and storage that's built for heavy use.

Travel system: A car seat-compatible stroller that allows you to easily transition baby from car to pram.

Lightweight or umbrella: A slighter-than-average stroller that's convenient for quick trips and travel.

All-terrain or jogging: An exercise-ready stroller that's outfitted with large wheels, a hand brake, safety tether and more.

Double: A side-by-side, tandem or inline stroller that safely accommodates multiple passengers.

2 Determine your needs.

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

1. How will you use the stroller primarily? Do you prefer a stroller that can "do it all" or are you interested in purchasing different strollers for various activities and uses?
2. What kind of terrain will you be navigating with the stroller? Sidewalks? Mall floors? Paved walkways? Gravel roads? Grassy fields?
3. Is it important to you that the stroller is usable from birth through the toddler years?
4. Where will you store the stroller? Will you need to transport it by car or plane?
5. Do you need a stroller that can grow with your family?

3 Find your fit.

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

FEATURE	IMPORTANT TO ME	OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3
Adjustable foot rest				
Adjustable harness				
Canopy: Size matters! Decide how much coverage you'll need.				
Car seat compatibility: If you plan to use your stroller as a travel system, make sure the model you purchase is compatible with your car seat of choice.				
Carry strap				
Cup holder				
Fixed front wheel				
Foot brake				
Hand brake				
Height-adjustable handlebar: Tall or short parents will appreciate a customizable push.				
One-hand fold				
Optional carrycot				
Optional second seat				
Peekaboo window				
Rain cover				
Reversible seat: Some parents prefer to have their newborns face them for the first few months.				
Seat recline				
Snack or play tray				
Self-standing when folded				
Storage basket				
Swivel front wheel				
Weight limit: Write in your ideal height and weight range for a stroller and note the ranges of the seats you're considering.				
Weight: If you'll have to haul the stroller up stairs or heave it into your trunk, you'll want to be sure you're able to lift it easily.				



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