

IMPORTANT NEW BABY CARE KIT INSTRUCTIONS



Starting January 1, 2026, Baby Care Kits need to include only new and/or handmade items. We realize this is a shift from how groups and individuals have put Baby Care Kits together in the past, so we have prepared a list of Frequently Asked Questions below.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When will this new requirement go into effect?

- This will go into effect **January 1, 2026**.

What if I already have Baby Care Kits packed and ready to go to an Ingathering/send to LWR? Do I need to take them apart and redo them?

- No, previously packed Baby Care Kits are covered by the grace period and will be accepted through the end of 2025.

Why is LWR making this new requirement for Baby Care Kits?

- When Customs officials find stained, unhemmed, or worn items, they penalize LWR and won't release the shipment to be distributed until a fine is paid. The fine can be hefty. It is very important that the quilts and kits are of high quality. Quality quilts and kits are one of the reasons LWR has a great reputation.

Why do the Baby Care Kit items need to be new?

- The rule for the School Kits and Personal Care Kits is that the components must be new. In the same manner, Baby Care items need to be new. Handmade items are still acceptable. Imagine it as giving someone a gift that you would want to receive.

Will we still be able to make items for the Baby Care Kits?

- Yes, handmade items are acceptable. Download simple patterns at lwr.org/patterns.

Won't this cut down on the number of Baby Care Kits LWR receives?

- Yes, we anticipate the number of Baby Care Kits may decrease, but quality is preferable to quantity.

My group can't afford to buy brand new items. We depend on donated/thrifted baby clothing. Can we still use such items?

- All items **MUST** be new or handmade. Download ideas for cost savings at lwr.org/savings.
- The **ONLY** exception is donated and/or thrifted items that are in "pristine" or "like-new" condition. However, socks and towels **MUST** be brand-new.

How does LWR define "pristine" or "like new?"

- The items must look new.
- The items must have no stains.
- The items must not have "wear and tear".

These are gifts. Consider these questions as you cull through donated/thrifted items: Would I or my group be proud to give this as a gift at a baby shower? Would I put this on my child, niece, nephew or grandchild? Is this a quality item?

"When in doubt, leave it out."

Should we still cut off the feet of sleepers and the bottom snaps of onesies?

- Yes, you **MUST** hem or serge cut-off onesies and sleepers to make a finished edge. They **MUST** look new.

THANK YOU!



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