

How does the Dr. Brown's baby bottle work?

Dr. Brown's baby bottles feature an internal vent system not found in any other bottle. Our bottles are fully-vented for vacuum-free feeding. We call this positive-pressure flow, similar to breastfeeding, which allows babies to feed at their own pace. As the baby feeds, air is channeled from the nipple collar (not the silicone nipple) through the vent system, to the back of the bottle. This unique design helps reduce colic, spit-up, burping, and gas – resulting in a more comfortable feeding experience for your baby. Because air bypasses the breastmilk or formula, there is no oxidation of nutrients. A university study determined that Dr. Brown's bottles help preserve nutrients like vitamins C, A and E. See [how the Dr. Brown's bottle works](#).

What is the difference between the Standard and Wide-Neck Dr. Brown's bottles?

All Dr. Brown's bottles, regardless of shape or size, share the same benefits of the vacuum-free internal vent system. Dr. Brown's bottles are available in two distinct shapes:

- Original: The [Dr. Brown's Natural Flow® "Original" bottle](#) is a Narrow or Standard shape found in many traditional baby bottles.
- Wide-Neck: The [Dr. Brown's Natural Flow® "Wide-Neck"](#) has a larger diameter with curved indentations on the side to make it easier to hold.

Many breastfeeding mothers prefer the Dr. Brown's Wide-Neck bottle because the nipple has a broader base, which can help baby avoid nipple confusion. The Standard Dr. Brown's bottle carries the standard bottle nipple, which is more narrow. This nipple shape is chosen by many hospitals and feeding specialist as being ideal for infants and newborns. Babies tend to favor different nipple types. Some simple experimentation will help identify your baby's preference. The Standard bottles come in 2-ounce, 4-ounce and 8-ounce sizes; and our Standard Wide-Neck bottles are available in 4-ounce and 8-ounce sizes. The Dr. Brown's Options Wide-Neck bottles are slightly larger, at 5-ounce and 9-ounce sizes.

Why is it good to prevent a vacuum from developing in the bottle?

There are two major problems associated with most traditional baby bottles: air and vacuum. Air ingested by babies can cause discomfort, sleepless nights, gas, spit-up, cramps, and other symptoms associated with colic. A vacuum in the bottle can transfer air to a baby's middle ear and can encourage fluid to be drawn in. Traditional non-vented bottles tend to develop vacuums when babies feed from them because babies need to suck progressively harder to get liquid from them. Babies seal their lips to the nipple when they nurse, but as the vacuum increases, they ingest air through a weakened nipple seal. Air enters the bottle through the vent in the nipple and aerates the breastmilk and formula.

Is that a straw in the Dr. Brown's baby bottle?

The tube in the middle of the bottle is a reservoir tube, and it is an integral part of the vent system. It channels the air to the area above the liquid, keeping the air from being incorporated into the breastmilk or formula. It is that air that can create burping, spit up, and gas.

Will Dr. Brown's bottles attach to my breast pump?

The bottle threads on our Standard bottles attach to most major breast pump brands. Our Wide-Neck bottles will also attach with the adapter included in the [Dr. Brown's Manual Breast Pump](#).

Can I use Dr. Brown's bottles if my baby has health issues?

Dr. Brown's is committed to the health of all babies, and we design products that help with the feeding of premature infants, as well as those born with issues such as tongue tie and cleft palate.

If you have a preemie baby or a baby who has challenges with feeding, please [contact us](#) for more information about how we can help.