



Nipple Selection Guide for all Dr. Brown's Zero-Resistance™ Bottle Systems

NARROW



WIDE-NECK



Every feeding experience matters.

We understand all infants' feeding experiences are individualized and should always be safe and positive. Each infant has their own unique feeding skills, which may not be a reflection of their age or size. For this reason, Dr. Brown's designed reliable and consistent nipple levels and flow rates to custom-fit an infant's feeding needs. Dr. Brown's® Narrow Nipples are available in eight (8) nipple flow levels and Dr. Brown's® Wide-Neck Nipples are available in six (6) nipple flow levels.

One nipple level does not fit all babies.

Dr. Brown's Medical has developed guidelines to help identify the ideal nipple level and flow rate to support an infant at different stages of their feeding skill development. Changing to a different nipple level should be based on the behaviors an infant shows during bottle feeding combined with their current level of feeding skill.

Infants may feed more comfortably and successfully on a nipple level for a long or short period of time and will move to different nipple levels at their own pace. Using all of the Dr. Brown's® nipple levels available during their bottle-feeding experience may not be required.

If an infant shows any of the challenging signs – as indicated below – during feeding with a certain nipple flow level, it could mean the nipple flow may be faster than the infant can tolerate. Some of the signs the nipple flow rate is too fast for an infant may include:

- Falling asleep at the start of feedings
- Taking a very long time to eat small amounts
- Drooling
- Gulping
- Coughing
- Choking
- Bottle refusal

When these signs are noted, a slower flow nipple may be indicated. With a slower flow nipple, some infants may feed more comfortably and accept the appropriate amount of fluid and nutrition needed to grow, develop, and thrive.

Consider consulting a healthcare provider before changing nipple levels or bottle systems when an infant is having signs of difficulty accepting bottle feeding.

Ultra-Premie™ Nipple*

- Slowest flow rate of the Dr. Brown's Medical line.
- Excellent first choice for very premature or medically fragile infants.
- Appropriate for use when infant shows stress signals with Preemie Flow™ nipple.

Preemie Flow™ Nipple

- Frequently used for first oral feeding for premature infants or when infant shows stress signals while feeding with faster flow nipple level.
- Good choice for supplemental bottle feedings for infants feeding at the breast.

Level T Nipple*

- Excellent choice for infants transitioning from Preemie Flow™ nipple.
- Useful for late preterm or full-term infants.
- Another good choice for supplemental bottle feedings for infants feeding at the breast.

Level 1 Nipple

- For more mature infant demonstrating consistent, efficient feeding skills.

Level 2, 3 and 4 Nipples

- Consider for infants taking larger amounts of feedings at breast and bottle who have established feeding and developmental skills.
- May be an appropriate choice if the infant is sitting up with assistance or without support.
- May consider these nipples if your infant is accepting early solids such as small amounts of cereal via spoon.
- Medical professionals have reported use of these higher nipple flow levels to be efficient when dispensing thicker liquid consistencies.

Y-Cut Nipple

- The Y-Cut Nipple flow rate should only be used when dispensing the highest level of viscosity.
- Not for use with preterm infants.

*Available in Narrow only

Parent/Caregivers Resources:



For more information, please contact Dr. Brown's Medical at medinfo@drbrownsmmedical.com or 844-967-6767

Dr. Brown's Medical does not endorse the clinical practice of thickening PO feedings.

Nipple level flow rates described above are based on testing with thin liquid viscosity.

Use of the Dr. Brown's Zero-Resistance™ Specialty Feeding System with thickened liquid may not be appropriate and each viscosity will need to be evaluated on an individual basis.