# Acetaminophen and ibuprofen dose chart



## What are acetaminophen and ibuprofen?

Acetaminophen and ibuprofen are medicines that are often used to treat fever and pain.

## What do I need to know to give these medicines safely?

To give these medicines safely:

- Check the name, strength and dose of the medicine you have 3 times before giving it to your child. These medicines come in different forms and strengths. Read the label carefully. This can help prevent a wrong dose of medicine.
- Do not give your child more medicine or give it more often than the doctor says.
- It may take 60 to 90 minutes for these medicines to work.
- Before using them with any other medicines, ask your doctor or pharmacist if it is safe.
  - This includes over-the-counter medicines like cough and cold medicines. Cough and cold medicines often contain acetaminophen or ibuprofen.
  - Also ask about giving your child these medicines with vitamins, herbal products, other supplements or home remedies.
- Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions about giving these medicines to your child.



This product contains acetaminophen, phenylephrine and dextromethorphan

## Acetaminophen



In case of an urgent concern or emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency department right away.

## How much acetaminophen can I give my child?

Ask the doctor, nurse or pharmacist to circle your child's correct dose on the chart below. You may give your child acetaminophen every 4 to 6 hours as needed. **Do not give acetaminophen to babies younger than 3 months of age without a doctor's order.** 

- Do not give your child more than 5 doses in 24 hours.
- If your child has any type of liver problem, talk with the doctor before giving acetaminophen.

#### Special notes about liquid acetaminophen:

- The infant suspension is the same strength as the children's liquid 160 mg per 5 mL It comes with a syringe. Use this syringe to give your baby the medicine.
- The children's liquid suspension comes with a medicine cup. Use this cup to give your child the medicine.

Special notes about acetaminophen dissolve packs:

- Make sure the box says "Children's Tylenol for Ages 6 11" and NOT adult.
- Tear packet and pour powder directly onto your child's tongue.

### Acetaminophen dose chart

Ask the doctor, nurse or pharmacist to circle your child's correct dose on the chart below.

Child's weight Pounds (lb) [kilograms (kg)]	Infant or children's liquid* (suspension) 160 milligrams (mg) per 5 milliliters (mL)	Meltaways 80 mg tablet	Junior meltaways 160 mg tablet	Dissolve packs 160 mg**
<b>12 to 17 lb</b> (5.4 to 7.7 kg)	2.5 mL <u>or</u> ½ teaspoon (tsp)	Do not use	Do not use	Do not use
<b>18 to 23 lb</b> (8.1 to 10.4 kg)	3.75 mL <u>or</u> <sup>3</sup> ⁄ <sub>4</sub> teaspoon (tsp)	Do not use	Do not use	Do not use
<b>24 to 35 lb</b> (10.9 to 15.9 kg)	5 mL <u>or</u> 1 teaspoon (tsp)	2 tablets	1 tablet	Do not use
<b>36 to 47 lb</b> (16.3 to 21.3 kg)	7.5 mL <u>or</u> 1 ½ teaspoons (tsp)	3 tablets	$1\frac{1}{2}$ tablets	Do not use
<b>48 to 59 lb</b> (21.8 to 26.8 kg)	10 mL <u>or</u> 2 teaspoons (tsp)	4 tablets	2 tablets	2 packets
<b>60 to 71 lb</b> (27.2 to 32.3 kg)	12.5 mL or $2\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons (tsp)	5 tablets	$2\frac{1}{2}$ tablets	2 packets
<b>72 to 95 lb</b> (32.7 to 43.1 kg)	15 mL <u>or</u> 3 teaspoons (tsp)	6 tablets	3 tablets	3 packets

In case of an urgent concern or emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency department right away.

#### NOTES from acetaminophen dose chart on page 2:

\* You may see the word "suspension" on your child's medicine bottle. Shake the medicine well before giving it to your child. Use the syringe or medicine cup that comes with the medicine. Do **NOT** use a kitchen teaspoon or tablespoon to measure your child's medicine.

\*\*Make sure the box of dissolve packs says "Children's Tylenol for Ages 6 - 11" and NOT adult.

Please note that there is another type of acetaminophen called FeverAll that comes in the form of a suppository. A suppository is medicine that is inserted into the rectum (bottom). Talk with the doctor before giving your child a suppository. If they say it is OK to give, ask them what strength to use.

## How much ibuprofen can I give my child?

Ask the doctor, nurse or pharmacist to circle your child's correct dose on the chart below. You may give your child ibuprofen every 6 to 8 hours as needed.

- Do not give ibuprofen to babies younger than 6 months of age without a doctor's order.
- Do not give your child more than 4 doses per day.
- If your child has chickenpox, kidney, liver or bleeding problems, talk with the doctor before giving ibuprofen.
- You can give ibuprofen with food or milk to decrease stomach upset.

## **Ibuprofen**



These products all contain ibuprofen



**Brand** 

Brand



Generic

In case of an urgent concern or emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency department right away.

#### **Ibuprofen dose chart**

Ask the doctor, nurse or pharmacist to circle your child's correct dose on the chart below.

Child's weight Pounds (lb) [kilograms (kg)]	Infant drops* 50 mg per 1.25 mL	Liquid suspension** 100 mg per 5 mL	Junior chewable tablet 100 mg
<b>18 to 23 lb</b> (8.1 to 10.4 kg)	1.875 mL	3.75 mL	Do not use
<b>24 to 35 lb</b> (10.9 to 15.9 kg)	2.5 mL	5 mL <u>or</u> 1 teaspoon (tsp)	Do not use
<b>36 to 47 lb</b> (16.3 to 21.3 kg)	Do not use	7.5 mL $\underline{\text{or}}$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons (tsp)	$1\frac{1}{2}$ tablets
<b>48 to 59 lb</b> (21.8 to 26.8 kg)	Do not use	10 mL <u>or</u> 2 teaspoons (tsp)	2 tablets
<b>60 to 71 lb</b> (27.2 to 32.2 kg)	Do not use	12.5 mL <u>or</u> 2 ½ teaspoons (tsp)	$2\frac{1}{2}$ tablets
<b>72 to 95 lb</b> (32.7 to 43.1 kg)	Do not use	15 mL <u>or</u> 3 teaspoons (tsp)	3 tablets

#### **NOTES** from ibuprofen dose chart above:

# What medicine safety tips should I know?

- Always read the label before giving medicine to your child.
- Always use the syringe or medicine cup that comes with the medicine. You can get one at your pharmacy.
- **Do not** use kitchen teaspoons or soup spoons to measure your child's medicine. They will not give you the correct dose.
- Watch to make sure your child takes the entire dose of medicine. Never give your child anyone else's medicines.

<sup>\*</sup> Use the dropper, syringe or medicine cup that comes with the medicine. Do **NOT** use a kitchen teaspoon or tablespoon to measure your child's medicine.

<sup>\*\*</sup>You may see the word "suspension" on your child's medicine bottle. Shake the medicine well before giving it to your child.

- Keep all medicines in their labeled container where your child cannot get to them. If possible, store all medicines in a locked cabinet. This includes prescription and over-the-counter medicines, eye, ear and nose drops and sprays, creams, lotions, vitamins, supplements and herbal products.
- Do not store bottles of acetaminophen or ibuprofen in the refrigerator. Store at room temperature. Avoid hot temperatures.
- Throw away all medicines after their expiration date on the container or when your child has finished the prescribed dose.
- Ask visitors to keep their purses, suitcases and coats that contain medicine up and away from your child. Keep your things up and away when you visit someone else.
- Teach your child that medicines are **NOT** candy. Do not call medicine patches stickers or tattoos.
- Tell your child's doctor, dentist and the emergency department (ED) about any medicines your child is taking. Take the medicines with you.
- Call the Georgia Poison Control Center at 800-222-1222 or call 911 **right away** if your child takes too much medicine or has a bad reaction to medicine.

Keep all medicine out of the reach of children.

This teaching sheet contains general information only. Talk with your child's doctor or a member of your child's healthcare team about specific care of your child.