



# Pediatric Acetaminophen and Ibuprofen

Acetaminophen (Tylenol) and ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin) are over-the-counter pain and fever reducers. Fever is the body's normal response to infections and will usually get better on its own. Treating a fever with these medications can make your child more comfortable, but the infection won't go away faster.

## Safety tips

If you give your child acetaminophen or ibuprofen, be sure to follow these important guidelines.

### Acetaminophen

- Don't give to infants under 2 months old unless instructed by your child's doctor.
- Check the concentration of medication you have. Concentrated infant drops (80 mg/0.8 mL) are no longer sold, but if you have some at home they're expired and should be discarded.
- Don't give your child more than 5 doses in 24 hours.

### Ibuprofen

- Don't give to infants under 6 months old.
- Don't give your child more than 4 doses in 24 hours.
- Don't give if your child is dehydrated, vomiting, or has kidney or heart problems.

### General

- Carefully read and follow all labels on the package.
- Know how much your child weighs. The correct dose for your child is based on weight (not age).
- Use only the syringe or cup that came with the medication to measure it, not a kitchen spoon. Measure in a well-lit area.
- Don't exceed the maximum recommended doses.
- Talk to your doctor before switching between acetaminophen and ibuprofen.
- Don't give aspirin to anyone under age 20.
- Don't give naproxen sodium (Aleve) to children younger than 12 unless prescribed.
- Call us right away if your baby is under 2 months old and has a rectal temperature of 100.4°F or higher.

**See next page for dosing guide.**

## Recommended pediatric dosing

### Acetaminophen (Tylenol, Triaminic, Good Sense, Panadol, Good Neighbor Pharmacy)

Weight Age	Infants' Concentrated Drops (Dropper)*	Infants' Liquid Syrup (Syringe)	Children's Liquid Suspension	Children's Chewable Tablets/Meltaways	Junior Strength Chewable Tablets/Meltaways	Adult Tablets
	<b>80 mg/0.8 mL</b>	<b>160 mg/5 mL</b>	<b>160 mg/5 mL</b>	<b>80 mg</b>	<b>160 mg</b>	<b>325 mg</b>
<b>6–11 lbs.</b> 1–5 months**	Expired: Discard	1.25 mL (40 mg)	1.25 mL (40 mg)			
<b>12–17 lbs.</b> 6–11 months	Expired: Discard	2.5 mL (80 mg)	2.5 mL (80 mg)			
<b>18–23 lbs.</b> 12–23 months	Expired: Discard	3.75 mL (120 mg)	3.75 mL (120 mg)			
<b>24–35 lbs.</b> 2–3 years		5.0 mL (160 mg)	5.0 mL (160 mg)	2 tablets (160 mg)		
<b>36–47 lbs.</b> 4–5 years			7.5 mL (240 mg)	3 tablets (240 mg)		
<b>48–59 lbs.</b> 6–8 years			10 mL (320 mg)	4 tablets (320 mg)	2 tablets (320 mg)	
<b>60–71 lbs.</b> 9–10 years			12.5 mL (400 mg)	5 tablets (400 mg)	2½ tablets (400 mg)	
<b>72–95 lbs.</b> 11 years			15 mL (480 mg)	6 tablets (480 mg)	3 tablets (480 mg)	
<b>95+ lbs.</b> 12 years & up					4 tablets (640 mg)	1–2 tablets (325–650 mg)

\*Concentrated infant drops were discontinued in 2011. If you still have some at home they're expired and should be discarded.

\*\*Don't give acetaminophen to infants under 2 months old unless instructed by your child's doctor.

### Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin)

Weight Age	Infants' Drops (Dropper/Syringe)	Children's Elixir/Liquid	Junior Strength Chewables	Junior Strength Swallow Tablets	Adult Tablets
	<b>50 mg/1.25 mL</b>	<b>100 mg/5 mL</b>	<b>100 mg</b>	<b>100 mg</b>	<b>200 mg</b>
<b>12–17 lbs.</b> 6–11 months	1.25 mL (50 mg)	2.5 mL (50 mg)			
<b>18–23 lbs.</b> 12–23 months	1.875 mL (75 mg)	3.75 mL (75 mg)			
<b>24–35 lbs.</b> 2–3 years	2.5 mL (100 mg)	5.0 mL (100 mg)	1 tablet (100 mg)		
<b>36–47 lbs.</b> 4–5 years		7.5 mL (150 mg)	1½ tablets (150 mg)		
<b>48–59 lbs.</b> 6–8 years		10 mL (200 mg)	2 tablets (200 mg)	2 tablets (200 mg)	
<b>60–71 lbs.</b> 9–10 years		12.5 mL (250 mg)	2½ tablets (250 mg)	2½ tablets (250 mg)	
<b>72–95 lbs.</b> 11 years		15 mL (300 mg)	3 tablets (300 mg)	3 tablets (300 mg)	