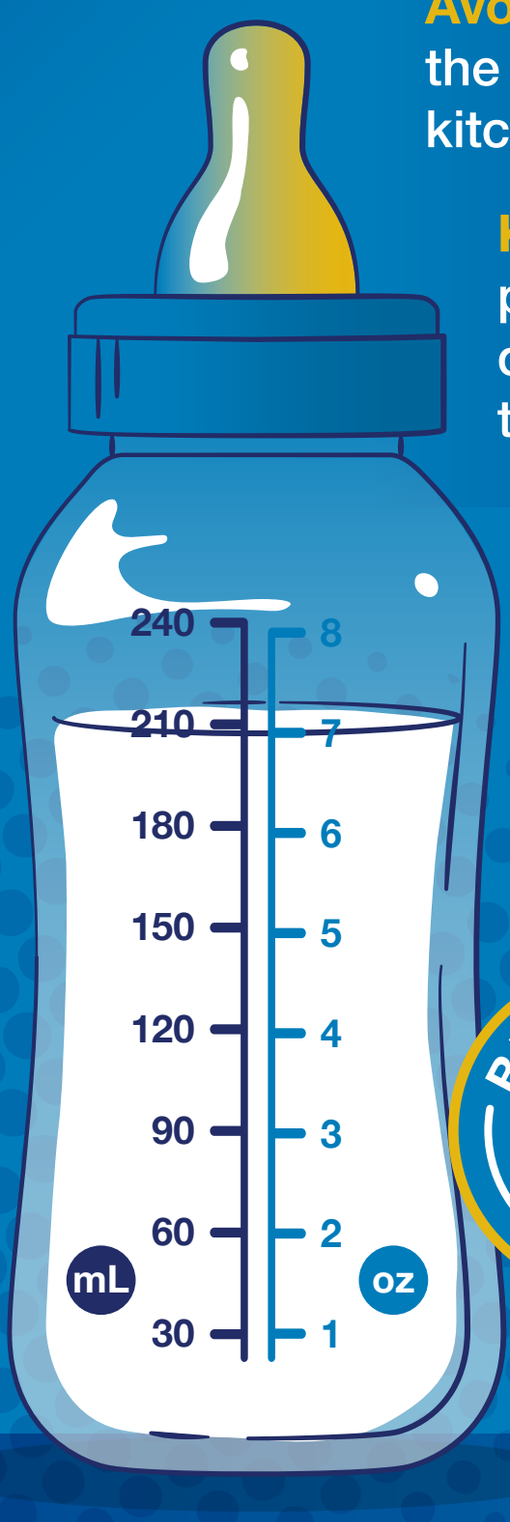
Tips for Safely Preparing Powdered Infant Formula

U.S. FOOD & DRUG ADMINISTRATION

It's vital that germs do not get into infant formula because babies do not have fully developed immune systems which puts them at higher risk for infections.

Powdered formula can provide a home for certain germs like *Salmonella* and *Cronobacter*.

Salmonella infections can be dangerous for infants. *Cronobacter* can cause rare but possibly deadly infections in infants.



Avoid cross-contamination. These germs can get into powdered infant formula after the container is opened. They can be found in other foods and live on surfaces like kitchen counters or sinks, and in water.

Keep powdered formula dry to help prevent contamination. To clean an unopened powdered formula container, use a disinfectant wipe or paper towel sprayed with disinfectant. Clean the outside of the container and lid before opening for the first time. Don't submerge the container or put it under running water.

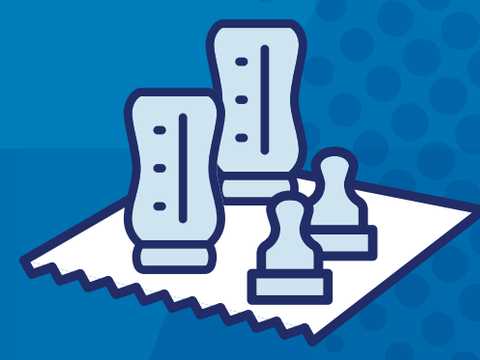
Keep the formula scoop dry at all times. Don't open the container until all surfaces are completely dry. Never clean the inside of the container. If the scoop falls into a sink, on a kitchen counter, or the floor, or is soiled some other way, clean it as you would the baby's bottle. Let it air dry completely before using it.

Use water from a safe source to mix powdered formula.

BEFORE 1st USE

Before first use, sanitize formula feeding items:

- Boil for 5 minutes, removing with clean tongs, and air dry on paper towel on clean dish towel.
- Or, run them through the dishwasher with hot water and heated drying cycle.



How to Prepare Powdered Infant Formula

*For specific directions, follow the manufacturers' instructions.

To clean bottles and other feeding items after use, wash them in a dishwasher using hot water and a heated drying cycle (or sanitizing setting), or wash them with soapy water in a basin used only for formula feeding parts, rinse, and air dry on a paper towel or clean dish towel.

For more information on safe handling of powdered infant formula see:
https://www.fda.gov/food/buy-store-serve-safe-food/handling-infant-formula-safely-what-you-need-know

*If you have any questions, talk to your baby's healthcare provider.