How to Use the Special Needs Feeder

Some babies have trouble feeding. They may find it easier with a **Special Needs Feeder** or a **Mini-Special Needs Feeder**, for smaller infants. This bottle has a silicone nipple that lets you control how slow or fast the formula flows. You can squeeze the nipple to help your baby suck. Once the baby learns how to use the nipple, the baby may be able to feed without you squeezing.

**How to put the bottle parts together**

1. Put formula for one feeding in the bottle.

2. Press the valve membrane all the way into the upper side of the disk.

3. Put the nipple into the collar.

4. Put the valve membrane into the nipple. Face the valve membrane and the high rim of the disk up, toward the inside of the nipple.

5. Put the nipple on the bottle. Put the collar over the nipple and screw it on the bottle.
How to Feed

To fill the nipple
1. Hold the bottle up and squeeze the nipple to get the air out.
2. Keep squeezing the nipple, and tip the feeder upside down.
3. Let go of the nipple. The formula will fill the nipple.
4. As the baby feeds, the nipple will fill.

How to change the flow of formula
1. Decide how fast you want the formula to flow
   Each line on the nipple is for a different flow rate.
   Slow flow: the short line
   Medium flow: the middle line
   High flow: the long line
2. Point the flow line you choose under the baby’s nose.

If your baby needs help
1. Gently squeeze and let go of the nipple to make formula flow. This will put a small amount of formula in your baby’s mouth.
2. Let your baby swallow before you squeeze again.
3. Watch how your baby sucks and swallows and feed at the same pace.

How to clean the Special Needs Feeder
1. After each time you use the bottle, take the feeder apart.
   Make sure you take the valve membrane and the disk apart, too.

2. Run cold water through the slit in the nipple to take out as much formula as possible.
   Do not turn the nipple inside out.
   Do not push brushes through the slit.
3. Wash all parts in warm soapy water.

4. Rinse all parts in cool water.

5. Each day, put all parts in boiling, distilled water for 20 minutes.

If you want to know more, read the instructions that came with the Haberman Feeder.

Places to buy a Special Needs Feeder

BEST Fed 4920 W Thunderbird, Suite 122, Phoenix, 602-843-4111
   www.eBESTFed.com
Baby Mother & More, 1236 S. Gilbert Road, Mesa, 480-986-0328
Every Mother & Child 2905 S. Ellsworth, Mesa, 480-986-0238
Just Juvenile Scottsdale Air Park, 7807 E. Greenway Road, Suite 3,
   480-998-9949
Mother’s Milk 10816 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, 480-922-4615
Medela 1-800-435-8316. www.medela.com

Now that you’ve read this:

☐ Tell your nurse, doctor, or therapist why your baby needs a Special Needs Feeder. (Check when done.)

☐ Show your nurse, doctor, or therapist how you fill a Special Needs Feeder. (Check when done.)

☐ Show your nurse, doctor, or therapist how you feed your baby with a Special Needs Feeder. (Check when done.)

☐ Tell your nurse, doctor, or therapist how you would clean a Special Needs Feeder. (Check when done.)
If you have any questions or concerns,
☐ call the Speech-Language Pathology Department
at 602-933-0980
or ☐ call ______________________

If you want to know more about child health and illness,
visit our library at The Emily Center at Phoenix Children’s Hospital
1919 East Thomas Road
Phoenix, AZ 85016
602-933-1400
866-933-6459
www.phoenixchildrens.org
www.theemilycenter.org
Facebook: facebook.com/theemilycenter
Twitter: @emilycenter
Pinterest: pinterest.com/emilycenter

Disclaimer
The information provided at this site is intended to be general information, and is provided for educational purposes only. It is not intended to take the place of examination, treatment, or consultation with a physician. Phoenix Children’s Hospital urges you to contact your physician with any questions you may have about a medical condition.
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Family Review of Handout

Health care providers: Please teach families with this handout.
Families: Please let us know what you think of this handout.

Would you say this handout is hard to read?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
Easy to read?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Please circle the parts of the handout that were hard to understand.

Would you say this handout is interesting to read?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Why or why not?

Would you do anything differently after reading this handout?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

If yes, what?

After reading this handout, do you have any questions about the subject?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

If yes, what?
Is there anything you don't like about the drawings?  

☐ Yes  ☐ No

If yes, what?

What changes would you make in this handout to make it better or easier to understand?

Please return your review of this handout to your nurse or doctor or send it to the address below.

The Emily Center  
Health Education Specialist  
Phoenix Children’s Hospital  
1919 East Thomas Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85016-7710

602-933-1395

Thank you for helping us!