

FIND YOUR PERFECT STROLLER

Everything you need plus more for finding your perfect stroller.



Did you know the average parent buys four strollers? Seriously!

For many new parents, finding the perfect stroller is a task that can be daunting and overwhelming. It doesn't have to be!

This guide has been put together to explain the different types of strollers and their functionality. We've also given tips on what to look for when shopping for strollers. From the wheels to the canopy we've got you covered.

The first thing you want to do before you start looking at strollers is think about and imagine where you want to use your stroller. Whether its around your neighbourhood, through the trails, on the beach or all of the above. Knowing where you're going to take your stroller is going to dictate the type of stroller you'll need.

Second, imagine what you'll do with your stroller. Meaning, are you going to just walk with it, go for the occasional jog or run five days a week with it. What you do with your stroller will also help to narrow things down for you.

Still unsure? No problem, the last page of this guide features a small quiz. Answer of few easy questions and we will give you our recommendation for a stroller that suits your needs the stroller we think is best for you.

Still need some help? Give us a call 1-844-394-2229. You can also email an expert at askanexpert@babyandme.ca . We will help you find exactly what you are looking for and need.



Stroller Anatomy

1 Handles

Who would have thought that there would be so many different types of handles? Some handles are actually two, some have a telescopic adjustable handlebar some are a pivoting handlebar. If you're quite tall or short choosing a stroller with the right handlebar just might be the deciding factor.

What to look for:

1. Walk with the stroller and look at the height of the handlebar when you walk. Is it comfortable? Can you adjust it to a proper and comfortable level?
2. Who else may be using the stroller often? Will they be able to adjust it to a good and comfortable height or angle?

2 The Wheels

Just about every manufacturer has a different type of wheel that they call something different. The main types of wheels include, air filled, foam filled, and plastic cap. What you are doing and where you are going will dictate the type of wheels you need. Smooth terrain = plastic cap or foam filled. Rough terrain = air filled or a higher quality foam filled tire.

What to look for:

1. Ease of steering and pushing of the stroller.
2. Suspension, especially if you're planning on using your stroller on rough terrain.



4 The Fold

How the stroller folds can be a major point for some parents. Think about when and where you might need to fold your stroller. Some strollers are a one-step, one-hand fold; some require two or three steps, others need the seat taken off first before you can fold the frame.

What to look for:

1. How small does it fold?
Where are you going to keep your stroller? How much space do you have. The size of the fold is equally as important as how it folds.
2. How easy is it? Could you explain it to a babysitter or grandparent if needed?

5 Storage Basket

How much do you plan to bring when using the stroller with your child? The size of the basket may be a deciding factor. Things to think about are the ease of access and the weight capacity. How much in total can you put in your stroller (including the weight of the child)? Or just in the basket itself?

What to look for:

1. Size and quality of material.
2. Ease of access.
3. Weight Capacity

3 The Brake

Each stroller has a brake, however the placement of the brake is different depending on the stroller. Make sure you are fully aware of where the brake is and how to use it before putting your little one in it.

What to look for:

1. Where is the brake.
2. Ease of use
3. How secure is it

Stroller Anatomy (continued)

1 Canopy

Most strollers include the canopy and some extend more than others blocking those harmful UV rays or the dreaded rain from your little one. Some also include a window to see your child if they are facing away from you.

What to look for:

1. Check how far forward the canopy extends.
2. If it's important, is there a window to peek through.

2 The Harness

Most strollers on today's market include a 5-point harness. We highly recommend always using your 5-point harness with your child. Accidents can happen and it's better to be prepared.

What to look for:

1. Play with the buckles. Are they easy to use if Grandma or Grandpa are babysitting?
2. Are the buckles too easy to undo? (i.e. for your toddler to escape).

3 Seat Fabric

Kids are messy! Having a good quality fabric is important for convenience and your own sanity. When looking at strollers a lot of people look at the colour. But remember, spills happen.

What to look for:

1. Materials used, is it easy to clean?



5

Seat Orientation

Some stroller seats just face one way (usually outwards). However many strollers on the market offer multiple seat orientations at various heights and orientations.

What to look for:

1. If it's important to you, does the seat change direction?
2. How easy is it to change the orientation of the seat?
3. Can you add an additional seat, if needed?
4. Attachments for multiple children

6 The Recline

Some (but not all) stroller seats have the ability to lay completely flat. Note: Unless you are using a car seat (with adapter), your infant should always lay completely flat in a stroller seat as long as possible. This is best for baby's spine especially when sleeping.

What to look for:

1. Can the seat fully recline to a completely flat surface?
2. How easy is the recline feature to use?
3. Can it recline and be folded without having to adjust the seat?



Multiples

Need a stroller for more than one? Whether it's twins or one older and one younger, there are many options available for multiples.



VS.



Side-By-Side Strollers

Most tandem strollers on today's market can fit through a standard size door. The advantage of tandem strollers is that both children are at the same height. They can both look at you and you at them equally.

Inline/Tandem Strollers

Inline strollers have the advantage of not needing to worry about whether they will fit through the door. However, one child is usually further away or at a different height than the other child.

When choosing your multiples stroller it's important to think about where you will need it and how you'll be using it. Is it important to you to always see both children at the same height? Or would you rather have a more narrow stroller with more options.



Test Driving Strollers

When test driving your stroller you're going to want to pay attention to a few key points to ensure you get the stroller you're looking for.

Size and Weight

How big is the stroller and how much space do you have for storing it at home? Pick up the stroller a few times and see how heavy it is. Strollers range in weight from 15 lbs to 33lbs, and beyond. Imagine yourself lifting the stroller in and out of a vehicle.

Weight Capacity

Knowing how much your stroller can safely hold is important. Make sure to ask not only how much the child seat can hold, but the stroller including the seat and storage basket (which usually have different weight capacities).

The Fold

A stroller's folding technology is usually one of its biggest features. How easy is the stroller to fold? Could you easily explain how to fold your stroller to someone else watching your child? How small is the stroller once folded? Again, think of the space you have at home, or in your vehicle, to store your stroller.

Car Seat Compatible

Okay, so you've chosen your stroller! Do you plan on putting your infant car seat in your stroller? We always suggest choosing your stroller before you choose a car seat. Not all car seats are compatible with all strollers. Be sure to ask what car seats are compatible with the stroller you've chosen. You'll also need the appropriate car seat adapter (where applicable). Some strollers will automatically be compatible with their own car seats (i.e. Britax, Peg Perego, etc...)

Storage Space

How much stuff do you plan on taking with you? Checking the storage space might be an important feature to look at. Again, be sure to check the weight capacity of the storage and the stroller in total. This could be a tipping hazard for your little one. This is also important to consider when using Mommy Hooks or hanging your diaper bag on the handle.

Lastly, Test Drive!

Take each stroller for a test drive, and not just a couple of feet. Don't be afraid to push the stroller throughout the store. If you have a child with you, get them to go for a ride. If you don't have a child with you, ask for something to put in the stroller so you can accurately feel the weight of something in the stroller.

Your Guide to All-Terrain Strollers

All-Terrain strollers are for long walks and hiking. Different types of terrain may be snow, sand, gravel or some trails.

What makes it an All-Terrain Stroller?

- Tough tires: You'll want something with a little traction, they are usually (but not always) air-filled or a durable foam filled tire.
- The front tire(s): When walking through snow or sand you'll want a tire that can easily maneuver through tough weather conditions without fatiguing you. Front tires that have the ability to be fixed can often provide better stability and control in tough terrain.

Ages: Depending on the recline of the child seat, many All-Terrain strollers can be used with newborns, or with the appropriate car seat adapter you can attach your infant car seat to the stroller or use a bassinet attachment.



Valco Baby
Tri-Mode



Baby Jogger
City Select



UPPAbaby
Vista



Bugaboo
Buffalo

Guide to Running Strollers

We recommend running strollers to those true runners that intend on running multiple times per week. If you intent on occasionally jogging or speed walking you may want to consider an all-terrain stroller. Running strollers are truly great for runners, however as a day-to-day stroller you give up a couple of features such as the limited range of recline in the seat, as well as the non-adjustable handlebar. If these features are important you may want to consider another stroller.

Note: Babies should be at least six-eight months old before jogging with them, and at least 12 months old before running with them. It's best to check with you Doctor before jogging or running with your baby.

What makes it a Jogging Stroller?

- Only 3 wheels: Why only three you ask? Because it's aerodynamic! For those serious runners you don't want something like an extra wheel slowing you down.
- Hand-brake: When you jogging or running and need to stop quickly chances are good your not going to easily step on a foot brake. This is why true jogging strollers have hand brakes in those quick-to-react situations.
- Fixed front wheel: Having a fixed front wheel not only adds more stability it also keeps the stroller inline while jogging. Plus, for added safety you don't have to worry about the wheel turning in an unsafe way if you accidentally hit a rock or other obstruction.
- Hand Strap: The safest hand strap is usually attached at the base of the stroller. If your in a situation where you may accidentally let go of the stroller the hand strap keeps you and your child attached. Some hand straps are located on the handlebar. Having the hand strap on the handlebar is better than no hand strap, however it allows for a potential tipping accident if you were to suddenly let go of the stroller.



Baby Jogger Summit X3



BOB Revolution SE

Guide to Ultralight Strollers

Ultralight strollers are the ultimate travel stroller. They are super compact and can easily fit just about anywhere. Many families will purchase both a full-size stroller and ultralight to have a good range of strollers for various needs. The majority of ultralight strollers are appropriate for ages 3-6 months and up.

Requirements of an Ultralight Stroller:

- **Travel friendly:** If you're a frequent flyer having a small stroller that can easily be gate checked and small enough to easily maneuver through small spaces can make travelling with children a whole lot easier.
- **Compact Fold:** Most ultralight strollers fold up quite easily and small. When looking at strollers always check the fold, how easy is it and will it fit into small spaces, like the trunk of a vehicle.



Bugaboo
Bee



UPPAbaby
G-Luxe



Baby Jogger
Vue



Baby Jogger
City Mini

Guide to Full-Size Strollers

Full sized stroller are typically the Cadillac of strollers. They typically have many features including a full reclining seat or bassinet option as well as the compatibility with an infant car seat (with the appropriate car seat adapter, sold separately). These stroller are the ultimate in comfort and adaptability.

Requirements of a Full-Size Stroller:

- **Full Recline or Bassinet:** Having a fully reclining child seat or bassinet means that your stroller is newborn ready. To be newborn ready a stroller needs to offer a completely flat surface for your little one.
- **Adjustable Handlebar:** Although having an adjustable handlebar seems simple its great for providing ultimate comfort for the caregivers. Whether it's Mom or Dad or Grandma that happens to be a little shorter, anyone can adjust the handlebar to the comfortable height.
- **Ability to accommodate a second child:** Many (not all) full sized strollers on the market now offer the ability to add an additional seat if a second child comes along.
- **Durability:** Since many of these strollers can accommodate more than one child they have been designed to last many years.



Bugaboo
Cameleon³



Baby Jogger
City Elite



UPPAbaby
Vista

