

The 11 Best Convertible Cribs of 2023, Tested and Reviewed

Best Budget: Delta Children Essex 4 in 1 Convertible Crib

★★★★★ 4.5



Amazon

[View On Amazon](#)

\$210

Pros

- Mid-century look on a budget
- Easy assembly
- No wear and tear after months of use

Cons

- Material didn't feel high-quality

At \$220, the Delta Children Essex 4-in-1 Convertible Crib is one of the lowest-priced cribs on our list—and you still get four conversion options. This modern nursery crib blends in beautifully with home decor and transforms into a toddler bed ([conversion kit](#) sold separately) and daybed/sofa (rail included), so you'll get plenty of use out of it for the years to come. With a JPMA, or Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association, certification, the Delta Essex meets all US safety standards, including its non-toxic multi-step painting process that's lead- and phthalate-safe. While the crib mattress is separate, the company recommends its brand, Serta, and Beautyrest crib mattresses, although a standard-size crib mattress works, too (at least 27 1/4 x 51 5/8 inches).

Before testing the crib's height adjustability, we put the crib together. Everything arrived well packaged, containing extra parts in case anything went missing. There's only one screw type (no second guessing if you're using the right one), and the instructions diagrams are clear. We had one editor assemble the crib alone in an hour and a half, and they noticed that while the material didn't feel of high quality, they didn't question its longevity. Adjusting the three mattress height positions is as easy as assembly—simply remove four screws, find the position you want, and put the screws back in (we only needed one person). Following two months of solid use, we're happy there's no wear and tear and that the crib still seems brand-new.

We think the value of the crib's mid-century design, ease of use, and assembly is worth the low investment. While the toddler bed rail is separate, it's only \$80 to \$110, depending on color—much less than the \$200 toddler bed conversion kit for the Pottery Barn Mid-Century Convertible Crib.

Price at time of publication: \$220

Convertible Cribs We Also Tested

- [Delta Children Sweet Beginnings 6-in-1 Convertible Crib](#): We appreciated the well-labeled parts and quick assembly but noticed the crib's finished construction didn't feel as solid.
- [Oeuf Sparrow Crib](#): While we are currently testing this crib, we love its dreamy assembly (pieces are well-packed, and a full-size screwdriver included). However, this crib, which is the most expensive we tested, doesn't include a toddler bed conversion kit, and we needed solid upper body strength to adjust the mattress height.

What to Look for When Buying a Convertible Crib

Safety

All new cribs on the market must meet federal safety standards that spell out far bars or spindles should be, plus many other details, so you can rest assured that any new crib you unbox will be safe. For example, bar spacing on a crib should be no more than 2.375 inches apart and at least 26 inches of bar space above the [crib mattress](#) when it's sitting at its highest point. Moreover, baby cribs should be free of any decorative carvings or cut-outs that could be hazardous to a curious baby.^[4] (This is also why antique and hand-me-down cribs are best kept as decorative items; it's tough to guarantee they're safe, and it's simply not worth the risk.)

Remember, boring is best, according to Dr. Murray, and you don't need all the bells and whistles to create a safe sleep space for your baby. Dr. Murray says fitted sheets should fit properly, as babies can't brush anything off their face due to a lack of good head control, posing a suffocation hazard if the sheet doesn't fit properly.

Conversion and Mattress Options

Convertible cribs offer many conversion options, like toddler, day, twin, and full-size beds, with alternatives in between. However, not all convertible cribs have the same conversions, so you'll want to consider your family's needs. Suppose you plan to have young kids close together—in that case, you may need a crib with multiple mattress height options, like the [Babyletto Hudson Convertible Crib](#). Or, if this is your last child, then a 4-in-1, such as the [Delta Children Essex 4-in-1 Convertible Crib](#), may be ideal so that it's the only bed you'll need to buy for them.

should sit low to the ground to prevent an injury if the child happens to fall out. Look for a toddler bed conversion kit with a bed rail, as that piece is better for injury prevention, Dr. DeBear says. \

While convertible cribs are convenient, they may cost you a little extra upfront, depending on the type or brand you choose and any additional pieces needed. Not all conversion kits (and mattresses) are typically sold with a crib and must be purchased individually.