



Acetaminophen and Ibuprofen Dosage Charts

The dosage charts in this handout give the recommended doses for acetaminophen and ibuprofen, 2 medicines that help lower temperature and reduce pain. The doses are based on a child's weight.

About Acetaminophen

Give every 4 to 6 hours, as needed. **Do NOT give more than 5 times in 24 hours** (unless your child's health care provider tells you to). *See the dosage chart on the back.*

- Give the recommended dose based on your child's weight, no matter what their age is.
- Oral and rectal doses may be repeated every 4 to 6 hours.
- Do **NOT** give more than 5 doses in 24 hours.
- Do **NOT** give acetaminophen to infants under 8 weeks old. Infants under 8 weeks old who have a fever higher than 100.4°F (38°C) **must** be seen by their doctor.
- Do **NOT** give acetaminophen to your child for more than 10 days in a row unless your child's doctor tells you to.
- Acetaminophen may take longer to work when given with foods that are high in carbohydrates.
- If your child takes sedatives, anti-seizure medicines, or rifampin, talk with your child's doctor before giving your child acetaminophen.

About Ibuprofen

Give every 6 to 8 hours, as needed. **Do NOT give more than 4 times in 24 hours** (unless your child's health care provider tells you to). *See the dosage chart on the back.*

- Give ibuprofen with food or milk to prevent stomach upset.
- Talk with your child's doctor if your child takes prednisone, anticoagulants, digoxin, diuretics, or Lithium.
- Do **NOT** give more than 4 doses in 24 hours.
- Do **NOT** give ibuprofen to:
 - Infants under 6 months old, unless your child's doctor tells you to.
 - Children who have chickenpox or who have been exposed to chickenpox in the past 21 days.
 - Children who are vomiting or have low fluid intake (dehydrated).
 - Children who have stomach pain, because ibuprofen may mask a serious illness or cause ulcers or bleeding.
 - Children who are allergic to aspirin.
- Children over 95 pounds may take 500 to 650 mg of ibuprofen every 6 to 8 hours. They should not take more than 4,000 mg in a 24-hour period.

These charts can be found on the Immunization Action Coalition website:
www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4015.pdf

Questions?

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or health care provider if you have questions or concerns. UWMC clinic staff are also available to help.

Pediatric Care Center:
206-598-3000

Acetaminophen (Tylenol) Doses (Give dose based on child's weight)

Child's Weight	Child's Age	Old Formula: Infants' Drops 80 mg in 0.8 mL	Infants' New Formula or Children's Liquid 160 mg in 5 mL (1 teaspoon)*	Chewable Tablets 80 mg	Junior Strength Tablets 160 mg
6-11 lbs (2.7-5 kg)	0-3 mos	Advised dose* _____	Advised dose: _____	Do not use	Do not use
12-17 lbs (5.5-7.7 kg)	4-11 mos	Advised dose* _____	½ teaspoon or 2.5 mL	Do not use	Do not use
18-23 lbs (8.2-10.5 kg)	12-23 mos	Advised dose* _____	¾ teaspoon or 3.75 mL	Do not use	Do not use
24-35 lbs (10.9-15.9 kg)	2-3 yrs	1.6 mL (0.8 mL + 0.8 mL)	1 teaspoon or 5 mL	2 tablets	Do not use
36-47 lbs (16.4-21.4 kg)	4-5 yrs		1½ teaspoons or 7.5 mL	3 tablets	Do not use
48-59 lbs (21.8-26.8 kg)	6-8 yrs		2 teaspoons or 10 mL	4 tablets	2 tablets
60-71 lbs (27.3-32.3 kg)	9-10 yrs		2½ teaspoons or 12.5 mL	5 tablets	2½ tablets
72-95 lbs (32.7-43.2 kg)	11 yrs		3 teaspoons or 15 mL	6 tablets	3 tablets

* Kitchen spoons are not accurate measures.

Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin) Doses (Give dose based on child's weight)

Weight	Child's Age	Infant's Drops 50 mg/ 1.25 mL dropper	Children's Liquid 100 mg/5 mL (1 teaspoon)	Old Formula: Children's Chewables 50 mg in each tablet	Children's Chewables or Junior Strength Tablets (100 mg)
Less than 11 lbs (up to 5 kg)	0-5 mos	Do not use	Do not use		Do not use
12-17 lbs (5.5-7.7 kg)	6-11 mos	1.25 ml (1 dropper)	Advised dose: _____		Do not use
18-23 lbs (8.2-10.5 kg)	12-23 mos	1.875 ml (1½ droppers)	Advised dose: _____		Do not use
24-35 lbs (10.9-15.9 kg)	2-3 yrs	Do not use	1 teaspoon or 5 mL	2 tablets	1 tablet
36-47 lbs (16.4-21.4 kg)	4-5 yrs	Do not use	1½ teaspoons or 7.5 mL	3 tablets	1½ tablets
48-59 lbs (21.8-26.8 kg)	6-8 yrs	Do not use	2 teaspoons or 10 mL	4 tablets	2 tablets
60-71 lbs (27.3-32.3 kg)	9-10 yrs	Do not use	2½ teaspoons or 12.5 mL	5 tablets	2½ tablets
72-95 lbs (32.7-43.2 kg)	11 yrs	Do not use	3 teaspoons or 15 mL	6 tablets	3 tablets

Notes

1.25 ml = 1/4 teaspoon 2.5 ml = 1/2 teaspoon 3.75 ml = 3/4 teaspoon 5 ml = 1 teaspoon

Remember: Do **NOT** give ibuprofen to infants under 6 months old, unless your child's doctor tells you to.

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