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## Who Should I Invite To A Baby Shower?

By Jim Hutton

It's often a challenge to decide just who to invite to your baby shower. What is the proper etiquette and how do you avoid hurting someone's feelings?

When determining your guest list, it's important to define your target group. Is it your idea to host the traditional women only gathering or will you include children? Today it's becoming increasingly popular to invite couples and/or complete families.

When you decide on the type of shower you are going to be hosting make sure your invitations are precisely worded, such as "women only", "children welcome" and so on based on your decision. If you are planning a specific theme make sure this is included on your invitations as well as any special instructions such as what to bring, how to dress, and directions to the party location. This will save you countless telephone inquiries regarding the specifics of your shower plans.

Always ask your invited guests to RSVP and keep in mind that typically about 20–25% of those confirming will ultimately fail to attend for a variety of reasons.

Baby Showers held at an office, social club or church have a pre-determined guest list of co-workers, club members or fellow church members but make sure that you find out if your shower is the only one being held for the mom to be. If it is, then you may want to extend invitations to her personal friends and family. It may take a bit of discreet probing to find out if there are additional showers planned.

Alternatively, if you are a friend or family member planning the only shower, it's a thoughtful idea to make a call to the prospective mother to be's employer to find out who should be invited from her workplace.

In most cases her husband should be able to supply contact information for her friends and work associates.

Don't forget that if your shower is the sole party planned, you should extend invites to the mom's family as well as her husband's family.

## Who Should I Invite To A Baby Shower?

Jim Hutton writes articles about planning and hosting baby showers, you can see the full article library at:

<http://baby-shower-plans.com>

### **Fun And Funny Baby Shower Invitations**

**By Stephen Kreutzer**

In this day of high technology, you may not even need paper baby shower invitations. In fact, you may just prefer to call your guests and invite them over for cake and presents and call it a baby shower. But if you have the time to invest in choosing baby shower invitations, whether you make them yourself or buy them, or send them online or via snail mail, these little introductions to your baby shower can set the mood and get the party started long before the first guest arrives.

#### Baby Shower Invitation Inserts

Whether it's a map to the site of the baby shower, a picture of the new little one if he or she has already arrived, or a sticker or magnet with a 'Save the Date' message stamped on it, inserts are a fun way to make the recipient feel like they are getting their own baby shower gift.

#### Baby Shower Z Fold Invitation

This baby shower invitation unfolds like an accordion and allows the recipient 3 to 6 panels in which information may be included. These are helpful if you don't want to deal with inserts and want to make sure that all the salient information stays together.

#### Baby Shower Invitation RSVPs

A fun RSVP card can get the baby shower fun started when your guest lets you know that he or she will be able to share the day with you. Leave space for a 'helpful hint for the new mom' or ask them to let you know what food or drink they would like to bring if you're hosting a potluck. Don't forget to provide stamped postcards or envelopes!

#### Helpful Baby Shower Invitation Hints

- \* Send your baby shower invitations up to a month before the actual baby shower.
- \* Be sure that your theme is obvious by the invitation you choose.
- \* If you opt to design your own, keep it simple! You don't want to get too bogged down before the baby shower begins!
- \* Don't forget to include map to the baby shower site as well as a cell phone number where guests may get last minute assistance with directions.

## Who Should I Invite To A Baby Shower?

\* If you're technology friendly, use your email address or one of the many invitation sites to keep track of your RSVPs.

Stephen Kreutzer is a freelance publisher based in Cupertino, California. He publishes articles and reports in various ezines and provides baby shower tips on

<http://www.baby-shower-101.com>



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