

# When to Call the Doctor: Fever

It can be very scary when your baby is sick, especially if your little one has a fever. Fortunately, most of the time you can treat your baby's fever at home but here are some guidelines on when to call the doctor.

1. Call your doctor if your baby is younger than three months old and has a rectal temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher. Your baby will need to be evaluated by your doctor right away.
2. Call your doctor if your three-to six-month-old has a temperature of 101 degrees or more.
3. Call your doctor if your child has other symptoms in addition to a fever including: drowsiness, severe ear pain, that could mean an ear infection, vomiting and diarrhea, that can increase the risk of dehydration, decreased wet diapers, and crying when urinating, which can be signs of a urinary tract infection.
4. If any fever lasts longer than 3 days, call your doctor and have your baby checked by your pediatrician.

If your baby is less than 6 months old and has a fever that climbs to 104 or 105 degrees, seek medical help right away. If you notice your baby has severe shortness of breath or is lethargic call 911 immediately.

Having a sick baby can be scary. Call the doctor when: Your baby is less than 3 months old and has a temperature of 100.4; Your 3 to 6 month old has a temperature of 101 or more; Your baby has other symptoms as well as fever; The fever lasts for more than 3 days. And call 911 if your child's temperature climbs to 104 or 105 degrees, or if your child has severe shortness of breath or is lethargic.