

A Practical Guide



My Mini Monsters



Organising a Baby Shower!





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Originally an American tradition, baby showers are becoming more and more popular in the UK. There's an abundance of gifts, services and websites dedicated to baby showers and, if nothing else, it's a great chance for mum's-to-be to get together with their friends for a party!

So what is a baby shower?

A babyshower is essentially a celebration of the imminent arrival of a new baby, with guests bringing gifts and clothes for the baby and sometimes for the Mum-to-be. It's an opportunity for her to be centre of attention for the day! A shower is usually held in the last trimester and could be kept a surprise from the mum-to-be.

Who Organises the shower?

Traditionally, the shower is given by a friend rather than a family member. So if this job falls to you, here are our top tips to help you along the way:

- **Location**

There is no set guidelines for when or where showers are to be held and the party can be at a variety of places although the daytime is usually better for the expectant Mum than night time. Your house or a friend's will do just fine - anywhere that you can comfortably entertain a group of people will fit the bill.

- **Themes**

There are no set guidelines for what takes place, but just as with any party, a theme will help the event go with a swing. More glamorous themes could be cocktails and champagne (orange juice for Mum!) or afternoon tea. If you know the sex of the baby then the event can be themed to a girl or a boy and the theme can begin with the invitations.

The best advice is to think about the personality of the mum involved and pick a theme that will suit her.

• Games

If you feel very adventurous then you could incorporate party games - for grown ups of course. Why not ask each individual friend to make a pledge to the Mum, and not just the traditional babysitting. How about promising to pop round and Hoover, make dinner, or even take the baby for a walk whilst Mum gets hair done.

• Gifts

Of course it is customary to give presents to the mum-to-be, but how to know what is the best? You can shop for a gift for baby and something for the Mum, and of course, here at My Mini Monsters you can find lots of inspiration for gifts large and small!

For Mum:

- A pedicure (as she can't touch her toes!) or beauty treatment.
- A piece of jewelry or make-up.
- A pampering kit of mum-to-be's favourite toiletries brand.

For Baby:

◦ Nappy cakes - they look like a wedding cake but contain baby toiletries and clothes as well as treats such as a half bottle of champagne, chocolates and toiletries for the mother. Personalised baby blankets, toys and clothes.

- Bouquets of baby clothes as an alternative to fresh flowers.

◦ A classic book such as Beatrix Potter or a CS Lewis or Roald Dahl novel.

◦ A gift set containing all the items mum-to-be will need for the new baby; bibs, hats, booties and blankets!

Check out a New gift Baksets in a range of four different colours in four different sizes.

• Favours

Just as at a wedding, some showers will provide favours for guests, which usually have a girly theme; chocolate, sugared almonds and even bath fizzers are all available to thank guests as they leave.

