

GUIDELINES FOR STORING FORMULA SAFELY



- Powdered formulas **✗** not sterile.
- Liquid concentrate & ready-to-feed **✓** sterile.
- ⚠ Consider sterility for populations with weak immune systems or infection risk.
- **🚫 FDA advises against powdered formula in emergencies, unless no other option.**
- **✓** Follow the manufacturer's instructions on the label.
- **🚫 If proper storage isn't possible, discard unused portions of formula.**

Storage for OPENED Products Liquid – Concentrate & Ready-to-Feed:

- **✓** Store in the original covered container in the refrigerator.
- **🌡** Fridge temp: 35–40°F.
- **🕒** Use within 24–48 hours to avoid nutrient loss (Vitamin C & B vitamins) and bacterial growth.
- **🚫** Discard formula left unrefrigerated for more than 1 hour.

Storage for OPENED Prepared Formula (from Powder or Liquid Concentrate):

- **🌡** Refrigerate prepared formula (35–40°F) and use within 24–48 hours.
- **🕒** Discard formula left in the bottle for more than 1 hour after feeding begins.
- **🚫** Formula left unrefrigerated for over 1 hour must also be discarded.

Storage for OPENED Powdered Formula (Not Reconstituted):

- **📅 17** Label the container with the date opened.
- **🕒** Use within 4 weeks; discard after that.
- **🌡** Store in a cool, dry area (not in the fridge) with the container covered.
- **⚠** After 4 weeks, powder may become rancid and lose Vitamin A & C.
- **🚫** Discard formula stored outside of recommended conditions.
- **🚫** FDA advises against powdered formula in emergencies, unless no other option.

⚠ Special Handling for Semi-Elemental/Elemental Products:

- **🕒** Discard after 24 hours for most products.
- **🏥** Health care facilities typically follow this guideline due to the setting.
- **👶** High-risk infants may need stricter rules than standard recommendations.

Semi-Elemental and Elemental Products are specialized medical nutrition formulas designed for individuals with impaired digestion or absorption. These products provide nutrients in a form that is easier for the body to process. They are typically used under medical supervision for specific health conditions, such as severe food allergies, gastrointestinal disorders, or malabsorption syndromes.

For specific information for parents of infants, please see the link below regarding infant formula storage and preparation:
<https://www.fda.gov/food/buy-store-serve-safe-food/handling-infant-formula-safely-what-you-need-know>