## GUIDELINES FOR STORING FORMULA SAFELY





## Storage Guidelines for UNOPENED Products:

- ✔ Keep room temperature above 32°F and below 85°F.
- 🍀 Ideal range: 65–75°F.
- Temps outside these limits may affect quality
- 🚫 Do not use after the expiration date.
- Avoid storing near heaters, vents, A/C, direct sunlight, or places with temps that differ from room temp.
- 🖸 Repeated exposure to temps outside the recommended range may impact product quality over time.



## Storage Guidelines for UNOPENED Products High Temps (Above 85°F) :

- Prolonged exposure to high temperatures can cause nutrient loss, browning, or physical changes.
- Sook for changes in consistency,
  - o 🤭 color
  - ∘ 👃smell
  - ♦ packaging.
- O Do not use if the product looks curdled, discolored, or smells unusual.
- ? Not sure what it should look like? Contact an expert or the formula company.
- • Avoid using the formula until you receive clear guidance.

## Storage Guidelines for UNOPENED Products Low Temps (Below Freezing):

- 券 Freezing formulas can cause risks∶
  - 🧈 Fat separation (emulsion instability).
  - Trotein changes (curdling/spoiling appearance).
  - *Mineral separation or formation of insoluble nutrient complexes.*
- • These changes may alter appearance and nutrient delivery, impacting quality.
- • Freezing may also damage packaging, making plastics brittle and compromising integrity.
- O Do not use products that were frozen or suspected of being exposed to freezing and thawing.

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- Powdered formulas  $\times$  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.
- **V** 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.
- Oscard 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.
- S 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.
- X 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.
- O 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

