

The 8-Week Baby Shower Planning Checklist

Everything that has to happen, in the order it has to happen. Assumes a 25-guest shower around month 7. Print it, tick it, stop worrying about what you forgot.

WHEN	WHAT TO DO
☐ 8 weeks out	Confirm the date with the mom-to-be. Set the budget. Lock the venue (host home, restaurant, banquet room). Pick a theme.
☐ 7 weeks out	Build the guest list with her input. She vetoes anyone she does not want there. Decide the format: in-person, virtual, or hybrid.
☐ 6 weeks out	Send the invitations. Include the registry link, the gift policy, and a dietary-restriction question. Late invites are the #1 killer of turnout.
☐ 4 weeks out	Order decor, balloons and tableware. Pick the games. Test screen sharing if hybrid. Confirm food — catered, potluck or DIY.
☐ 2 weeks out	Send the RSVP reminder. Buy the gift from the group. Print signage. Order the cake if you are catering it.
☐ 1 week out	Take the final guest count. Grocery shop if DIY. Charge speakers, test the TV or projector. Pre-load the games on the host laptop.
☐ Day before	Set up the decor. A balloon garland is a 90-minute job — start the night before. Inflate balloons with an electric pump. Lay out tableware. Charge phones for photos.

WHAT IT COSTS

Budget · 15–20 at home \$200–400

Standard · 20–35 guests \$500–900

Premium · 35+ at a venue \$1,200–2,500

Screen games (all 20) \$9.99

Food is roughly half the budget at every tier.

DAY-OF SCRIPT (90 MIN)

- 0:00 — Doors open, food and drink table
- 0:15 — Guest of honor arrives, photo moment
- 0:30 — Game 1: emoji pictionary
- 0:45 — Game 2: trivia, in teams
- 1:00 — Game 3: price is right
- 1:15 — Cake, dessert, one short toast
- 1:30 — Gift opening, then goodbyes

YOUR DETAILS

Date & time _____

Venue _____

Guest count _____

Games (pick 3–4) _____

Food plan _____

Cake / dessert _____

Prizes _____

Photo duty _____