

# Giving Your Child Age 6 and Older Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen: What You Need To Know

## Important Information

Acetaminophen and ibuprofen are over-the-counter medicines that relieve pain and reduce fever. Ibuprofen relieves swelling but acetaminophen does not.

It is important to follow your health care provider's instructions, the directions on the package label or both. Ask your health care provider if you are unsure about giving your child medicine to reduce a fever.

## Acetaminophen

Brand names of acetaminophen include Children's Tylenol®, Tylenol® and Genapap Children.

- Always follow your health care provider's instructions.
- One dose of acetaminophen should last for 4 hours. Do not give another dose during those 4 hours.
- Do not give your child more than 5 doses of acetaminophen in 24 hours.
- Do not give your child more medicine than the amount recommended by your health care provider or listed on the package label.
- Keep this and all medicines out of reach of children.
- **Do not save dosing cups from old bottles.** Only give the dosage with the dosing cup that comes with the medicine.

Weight (pounds)	48 to 59	60 to 71	72 to 95	96 or more
Age	6 to 8 years	9 to 10 years	11 to 12 years	13 years and older
Liquid suspension (160 mg/5 mL)	10 mL (2 teaspoons)	12.5 mL (2 ½ teaspoons)	15 mL (3 teaspoons)	—
Children's chewable tablets (160 mg each)	2 tablets	2 ½ tablets	3 tablets	4 tablets
Regular strength tablet (325 mg each)	1 tablet	1 tablet	1 ½ tablets	2 tablets

For the chart above: Find your child's weight. Follow the column that matches your child's weight to liquid, chewable tablets or tablets.

(over)

Ibuprofen Dosage Chart				
Weight (pounds)	44 to 54	55 to 65	66 to 87	88 or more
Age	6 to 8 years	9 to 10 years	11 to 12 years	13 years and older
Liquid Suspension (100 mg/ 5 mL)	10 mL (2 teaspoons)	12.5 mL (2 ½ teaspoons)	15 mL (3 teaspoons)	—
Chewable tablets (100 mg each)	2 tablets	2 ½ tablets	3 tablets	4 tablets
Tablets or capsules (200 mg each)	1 tablet	—	1 ½ tablets	2 tablets

**For the chart above: Find your child’s weight. Follow the column that matches the child’s weight to liquid, chewable tablets, tablets or capsules.**

## Ibuprofen

Brand names of ibuprofen include Advil®, Motrin® and Nuprin®. Ibuprofen is also known as a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID).

- Always follow your health care provider’s instructions.
- One dose of ibuprofen should last 6 to 8 hours. Do not give another dose during those 6 to 8 hours.
- Do not give your child more than 4 doses of ibuprofen in 24 hours.
- Do not give your child more medicine than the amount recommended by your health care provider or listed on the package label.
- Keep this and all medicines out of reach of children.
- **Do not save dosing cups from old bottles.** Only give the dosage with the dosing cup that comes with the medicine.

## When To Call Your Health Care Provider

Call your health care provider if:

- your child has an oral temperature higher than 103 F
- your child’s fever does not go down within 24 hours
- you gave your child acetaminophen or ibuprofen but the fever and signs of illness last for 3 days
- your child breaks out in a rash
- your child vomits.