

How to Pack Your Shoebox

1 SHOEBOX

Put together one of the boxes at church or use an empty cardboard or plastic shoebox (average size). Wrapping is **not** necessary (but if you do, **wrap box and lid separately**).

2 BOY OR GIRL

Decide whether your gift will be for a boy or a girl, and the age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14.

3 FILL WITH GIFTS

Fill the box with a variety of quality gifts that will bring delight to a child (see Gift Suggestions).

4 INCLUDE \$9 AND SHIPPING LABEL

A donation of \$9 per box is critical to transport your gift and deliver it into the hands of a child in need.

Standard Shipping Label: Donate \$9 per box by check to Samaritan's Purse (note "OCC" on the memo line) and place it in an envelope on top of the items inside your shoebox. Cut the appropriate label from the back of this page and mark the correct age category on the label; tape the label to the top of your box. *If you are preparing multiple boxes you can make one combined donation.*

Follow-Your-Box Shipping Label: If you would like to track your box to find out where it goes: Go to <http://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/follow-your-box/>, pay your \$9.00 online, and print the special Follow-Your-Box label to print and use. Later, you'll receive a notification about the destination of your shoebox gift.

5 PRAY

Ask God to use your gifts to show His love to the child who will receive your shoebox.

6 DROP OFF

Place a rubber band around each shoebox and drop off at church **by November 18** (we will have big rubber bands here if needed!).

GIFT SUGGESTIONS

ALL AGES

TOYS! Start with a central "**WOW**" item that will immediately capture the child's attention, like a nice doll, deflated soccer ball with pump, or plush stuffed animal. Then add quality items like cars, musical instruments, puzzles, jump ropes, yo-yos, etc.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES such as pencils, pens, crayons, notebooks, solar calculators, coloring books, etc.

HYGIENE ITEMS such as toothbrushes, bar soap, washcloths, combs, etc.

ACCESSORIES such as socks, hats, t-shirts, flip-flops, hair bands, sunglasses, etc.

OPTIONAL: You may add personal notes and photos of you and your family/group. If you include your name and address, the child may be able to write back.

YOUNGER CHILDREN:

Blankets, sticker and picture books, blocks, finger puppets, pages of colorful stickers.

OLDER CHILDREN:

Small tools, tape measures, sewing kits, fabric squares, etc.; deflated balls with pumps and needles; solar calculators, rulers, scissors; jewelry; deodorant.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS

There's a great list of gender and age-appropriate ideas at the Operation Christmas Child website; for a link go to our church website's Children's Ministry page (www.tvpchurch.org; "Get Involved" tab).

DO NOT INCLUDE used/damaged items; war-related items (e.g., toy guns, knives, military figures); candy or fruit rolls/snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; tooth-paste, medications, or vitamins; breakable items (especially anything with glass); aerosol cans.

Thank you!



Cut out the appropriate label and tape it on top of your shoe box gift. If you need additional labels, make photocopies or download from samaritanspurse.org/occ.

USE THESE LABELS

Mark the correct age category:

<input type="checkbox"/>	2-4 Years Old
--------------------------	---------------

<input type="checkbox"/>	5-9 Years Old
--------------------------	---------------

<input type="checkbox"/>	10-14 Years Old
--------------------------	-----------------



BOY



Mark the correct age category:

<input type="checkbox"/>	2-4 Years Old
--------------------------	---------------

<input type="checkbox"/>	5-9 Years Old
--------------------------	---------------

<input type="checkbox"/>	10-14 Years Old
--------------------------	-----------------



GIRL



Remember: if you would like to find out where your box goes you can go to <http://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/follow-your-box/>, pay online, and get a special shipping label emailed to you that will allow electronic tracking. Once the box is delivered you will be notified of the destination—where your recipient is!