



Road Trip Packing and Prep Checklist

Regular Clothes (kids' stuff in small bags that fit in large duffle bag, parents' stuff in their bags):

- 3-4 pairs of underwear per person in underwear bag
- 3-4 pairs of socks per person in sock bag
- 3-4 shirts per person (one nicer shirt, the rest T-shirts)
- 2-3 pairs of pants/shorts per person
- 1 swimsuit and swim shirt for each person in swim bag
- 1 pair of pajamas for each person in PJ bag
- 1 pair closed-toe hiking/running/athletic shoes per person in shoe bag
- 1 sweatshirt or jacket per person in sweatshirt bag that always stays in the car
- Diapers and wipes (track the number the baby uses on a typical day; pack that number plus a few)

Sunday/Special Occasion Clothes (if needed - all to go in garment bag):

- Sunday shirt and pants for each boy
- Belts and ties
- Sunday dress or skirt and top for each girl plus slip if needed
- Nice shoes for everyone (with dark socks inside shoes and tights inside girls' shoes)

Snacks (in a small cooler where mom or dad can easily reach it)

- Fruits (washed, ready-to-eat grapes, apples, baby oranges, etc.)
- Veggies (washed, ready-to-eat baby carrots, cucumber slices, sugar snap peas, etc.)
- Filled water bottles (in each cup holder in the car plus some extra)
- Other snacks (anything that would go bad if you left it in your fridge and is feasible to eat in the car)

Car Supplies (tucked into easily-accessible spots in the car)

- Wet wipes
- Tissues, napkins or paper towels (save the extras whenever you go to a restaurant)
- Filled water bottles in all cup holders
- Pillows (old throw pillows or camp pillows in pillow cases work great – small is good)
- Sunscreen and bug spray
- First-aid kit (band-aids, painkillers, ointment, etc.)
- Books to read and journals to write in plus pencils and pens
- Towels if needed for swimming, etc (1 per 2-3 people)
- Picnic blanket to keep in car and use as needed

Other

- Phone and phone cord
- Computer and cord (if needed)
- Camera and camera charger plus extra memory cards, if needed
- Kindle/iPad/other electronics plus cords
- Earphones
- Baby equipment if needed (portable crib, stroller, blankets)
- Sleeping bags if needed

Tasks Just Before Leaving

- Confirm that neighbor is planning to pick up mail, water plants, etc.
- Air conditioning or heat turned off or set to a high/low temperature; all lights off
- All windows closed and all doors locked
- Everyone goes to the bathroom