

## STROLLERS

### TIPS ON HOW TO BUY YOUR PERFECT STROLLER!

When researching which stroller to buy, there are a few key factors that you should consider before making your decision. You will probably receive many recommendations from friends, but most likely, you will end up purchasing 2 strollers that fit all of your needs. A stroller is like a car; it helps you and your baby get from place to place, organize your gear and is a reflection of your personality. There are 5 basic types of strollers which are described as the following: umbrella (lightweight and fold up small), lightweight or convenience strollers, All-terrain (larger wheels & bigger seating), Jogging strollers & Tandem or side by side strollers that accommodate 2 children.

### HERE ARE SOME FEATURES TO CONSIDER:

Where will you go with your stroller?

Walks around the neighborhood or out on wooded trails? City walks to a grocery store or getting from the car to the mall? Jogging back to shape or just running a few errands around town?

Where you live, whether you drive and the type of vehicle you own, all impact your stroller purchase. If you live in the city or plan on going on nature walks, you will want a stroller with large wheels (maybe even air filled tires like the Jeep® Liberty®) to be able to handle the terrain. If you are walking to the park, you may only need a compact & lightweight umbrella stroller that can get you there easily and quickly.

#### Size Matters

Do you own a Car or a Minivan? The size of the stroller when folded is important if you plan to travel with your stroller regularly. A large stroller may be nice and roomy for your baby but how much space are you willing to give up in your trunk to fit your new stroller? The perfect travel system may be great the first months while using it around the neighborhood with your infant car seat, but later on it may be too bulky for everyday use in and out of the car. Consider the following options:

- Travel systems are convenient but many strollers today accommodate more than one manufacturer's infant car seat. A stroller will be used for 3 to 4 years while the infant car seat will probably be used for only 6 months (maximum weight between 22 and 30 lbs). First determine what kind of stroller you need and if it needs to accommodate an infant car seat. Then select a top rated infant car seat and verify that the stroller accepts the infant car seat you've chosen.
- A compact & lightweight option to the traditional travel system is the Universal Car Seat Carrier. It is ultra light weight and compact while still allowing you the convenience of putting your infant car seat on wheels.
- Try one of the perfect stroller & carrier combinations: Contours® Options 3 Wheeler, Jeep Cherokee® or Kolcraft Tour Sport® Universal. All strollers use your existing car seat and have unique features that allow you to select the right stroller for you.

## **Heavy Lifting**

The weight of a stroller may be a factor if you are lifting it in and out of your trunk often. Do you live in a place that has many stairs, will you be able to carry the stroller and your baby up the stairs at the same time? Also, it is important to remember that lifting is not just for the front steps. Do you live in an urban area? Where do you like to walk in your neighborhood? Oftentimes there are smaller staircases, curbs, and storefronts that a stroller needs to be lifted or stepped over, sometimes full of the day's shopping or groceries. In those sorts of situations, an overly large stroller can easily cause undue stress on the parent, in these sorts of situations, less is more. If you plan to store the stroller in your garage or in a ground level area in your home, a heavier stroller is not a concern.

## **Reverse it:**

As we all know, babies change quickly. Before you know it, they'll be walking, talking, and off to school. It's nice when a product grows with your child, especially when that product is one you use all the time, like a stroller. Having a stroller that can have your infant face you can be a benefit; it keeps the infant content, while creating another intimate time for parent-child bonding. However, babies sometimes wish to see the greater world as they get older, and it's nice when your stroller can accommodate either situation.

That's why our line of Contours Option strollers were created. Whether or not you want a slow, intimate stroll, or trying to get somewhere fast, our strollers are there for you. Because babies change, life changes, so shouldn't your stroller change too?

## **Sleeping, Eating & Entertaining**

Strollers become your baby's home away from home while on the go. They are a place to eat, nap and keep your baby entertained.

Here are a few features to look for:

- Consider a stroller with a reclining seat with at least 2 positions. The stroller does not necessarily need to be a full recline but significant enough for a newborn to lie back without their head falling forward. This is less of a factor when using the stroller in combination with an infant car seat.
- An Infant Neck Roll helps keep a baby's head steady for the first 3 months while they learn to hold their head up.
- A Child tray is a great way for your child to have snacks or juice while on the go.
- A Parent tray or cup holder for your drinks and small necessities like keys and cell phone.
- A Large Basket to store your baby's gear.
- Toys to keep baby entertained on those extra long shopping trips

## **Getting Back into Shape**

Jogging strollers are a great way to combine getting out with your child and exercise time. Jogging strollers are not only great for running but they are also a perfect solution for those who enjoy long walks on trails. Why would you need to buy a jogging stroller? Many Lightweight & All-terrain strollers may have large wheels but to handle the bumps of the road, Jogging strollers always have at least 16" air filled tires. Since jogging strollers may move more quickly, they are equipped with important safety features like a hand brake for sudden stops, reflectors, a wrist tether, and a five point harness to keep the child snug.

Other key features to look for:

- How does it fold? How easy does it fold? Some Jogging strollers are complicated and require you to re move the wheels to fold.
- How lightweight is it? Since you will be pushing the Jogging stroller and your child's weight, make sure it moves easily
- Is there a place to store your water bottles?
- Do you like to listen to music while you run? The Jeep® Overland Jogging stroller has *Music on the Move®* which allows you and your child to listen to music using your portable audio device while still allowing you to hear what is going on around you.

## Two in tow

There are two types of strollers that can accommodate two children... either side by side or tandem (seats aligned front to back). Side by side strollers are a great way to save space in your trunk since they fold up compactly like an umbrella stroller. Traditional front to back Tandems usually have more features and may accommodate your infant car seat. So what is right for you? When choosing your stroller, consider where you will use your stroller. A side by side stroller is wide and is best used in open spaces. A front to back tandem stroller will have a larger fold so make sure it can fit into your vehicle.

Here are a few other things to consider:

- Do you need it to accommodate an infant car seat? Are you having twins and need it to accommodate 2 infant car seats?
- How long is it? Is it easy to steer? Can you lift it up over a curb?
- Wheel size is important to maneuverability. Look for larger rear wheels.
- Double the children mean double the gear. Look for an easy, accessible & large basket
- Finally, consider the weight limit the stroller can accommodate. An average 3 year old weighs about 35 lbs but some strollers can accommodate up to 45 lbs per seat.

