

Atlanta Parent Magazine's

BIG Baby BOOK

Guide
for
New and
Expectant
Parents

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HOT*WHEELS

by Laura Powell

It's time to shop for new wheels for your growing family – and we are not talking about a car. It may feel that way when you see the variety of strollers on the market today. Manufacturers have created an endless supply of options, ranging from umbrella strollers for \$13 to high-end fancy ones for over \$1,000. Here are a few of our suggestions.



◀ The **Jeep Liberty Limited** by Kolcraft is a basic stroller with lots of perks, including an iBaby Sound System to hook up your iPod or mp3 player for music on the go. The stroller works well on all terrains and has a convenient one-hand and self-standing fold. It comes with a swivel child tray with cup and snack holder as well as an entertainment toy that includes a horn, car sounds and music. It can also accommodate specific infant car seats. We found it a bit on the heavy and bulky side – it weighs in at 30 pounds – but it is comparable to other travel stroller systems. It holds a maximum weight of 40 pounds. Available at Babies 'R' Us, Walmart.com and Amazon.com. \$149.99-\$179.99

The **City Mini from Baby Jogger** is compact and sleek, making it easy to get around town while looking stylish. Its quick-fold technology allows moms to break down the stroller one-handed and storage is a breeze. This stroller also is lightweight and easy to navigate over uneven pavement and grass. The seat has many reclining positions, including nearly flat. A car seat adaptor is also available, but then you lose the ability to collapse the stroller with one hand. Belly bar, child's tray, rain cover, bassinet and additional accessories are available. The stroller weighs in at 16.8 pounds and can hold a maximum of 50 pounds. Available at buybuy BABY, A Room of Their Own and Baby on the Go. Single model, \$239.99; double model, \$429.99 ▶



◀ For high-end strollers, the **Mutsy 4Rider Light Stroller** is right up there. This stroller comes with an extra bassinet option (0-6 months) and a seat that can fully recline. The seat can be used in both directions, to face outward or toward you. The folding mechanism is easy once you get the hang of it. The easy-to-adjust handle is a bonus for taller stroller pushers. The Mutsy offers many accessories, including the bassinet, a car seat adaptor for specific models, and a dinner tray. This stroller weighs in at 23 pounds and carries a maximum weight capacity of 45 pounds. Available at New Baby Products, Baby on the Go and kateinternational.com. Stroller frame with seat, \$545



Baby Trend Snap-N-Go

Stroller Frames

Now that you have baby home, you may be overwhelmed at the thought of ever taking her out again. Consider the stroller frame. You can snap your car seat into one of these frames and off you go. Some more expensive strollers have attachments that allow you to do the same thing but they typically cost about as much as a stroller frame. These frames also can be found for cheap at consignment sales or online. Baby Trend, Graco and Kolcraft all make these types of strollers. Check their websites to see if your car seat is compatible with the frames you are considering.

All of the frame strollers are lightweight and take up less room in the trunk than the bulkier strollers that come with travel systems. Many moms like the Baby Trend Snap-N-Go because it is easy to fold up with one hand. Prices start at \$49.99 for the Baby Trend Snap-N-Go frame.

If you start out with the stroller frame, you will eventually need other wheels since your baby will outgrow the car seat.