

Silicone

Advantages:

- Highly transparent
- Particularly soft/very elastic
- Temperature-resistant (up to 180°C)
- Age-resistant
- Odourless/tasteless

Disadvantages:

- Limited rigidity can lead to leaks in the screw cap
- Irregular flow when sucking because of low rigidity

Supplier:

Nuby



Manufacturers and materials

Suavinex (Spain):

PC, PA and PP → reactive attitude

Difrax (Holland):

PC on sale, bottles primarily of PP → active attitude
PC is still used in supplementary product range

BornFree (USA):

PES and PP → extremely aggressive attitude
using media and influencers

NUK (Germany):

PC, glass and PP → reactive attitude
when faced with discussion on materials

MAM (Germany):

PC on sale, primarily PP → proactive attitude
when faced with discussion on materials

AVENT (England):

PC on sale, primarily PES and PP → reactive
attitude when faced with discussion on materials

Polyether-sulphone moulding material (PES)

Advantages:

- Transparent
- Free from Bisphenol A
- Dishwasher-proof/
heat-resistant and sterilisable
- FDA-tested

Disadvantages:

- Yellowness → contains sulphur
- PES contains the BPA-like material Bisphenol S. BPS has undergone far fewer tests than BPA.
- Stiffer and less flexible than PA.
- Very expensive material

Suppliers:

Bornfree, Avent

Manufacturers and materials

Nuby (USA):

PP → active attitude
when faced with discussion on materials
New: silicone is also used as solution for bottles

Novatex/Baby-Nova, Dr. Brown (Germany):

Primarily PC → no active efforts with regard to
materials during BPA discussion. New: also PP
solutions (active bottles, non-spill bottles, food lines)

Tommee Tippee (Australia):

Primarily PC → no active efforts with regard to
materials during BPA discussion. New: also PP
solutions (active bottles, non-spill bottles, food lines)

nip:

PC → reactive attitude when faced
with discussion on materials

PIGEON:

PC, PP, glass → passive/reactive attitude
when faced with discussion on materials

bibi

Pocket guide: material for baby bottles

bibi chooses harmless polyamide (PA)

Baby's health has top priority! Therefore, baby bottles are made of glass or polyamide (PA). Polyamide is free from harmful substances: quite unlike polycarbonate of which more than 90% of all baby bottles are still made today. Polycarbonate can discharge the controversial Bisphenol A (BPA). If BPA reaches the body, it has a similar effect to that of the hormone oestrogen. It comes face to face with a hormonal system, which is not yet fully developed and which thus reacts particularly sensitively. In addition, it is suspected that BPA causes adiposity, diabetes, cancer and genetic damage.

With polyamide (PA), bibi focuses on a material, which is not only unbreakable and boil-proof, but is also considered totally harmless for the health. The following survey of materials shows why:

Polycarbonate (PC)

Advantages:

- Highly transparent
- Lighter than glass
- Heat-resistant
- Unbreakable and relatively scratch-resistant
- Odourless and tasteless
- Economical

Disadvantages:

- Can discharge Bisphenol A

Suppliers:

All European suppliers

What is Bisphenol A (BPA)?

- Chemical component in PC
- Can sometimes be discharged from the material → warming in the microwave, keeping warm over a certain length of time, cracks/scratches/damage on the surface of the material
- Widespread raw material (PC) used for packaging that comes into contact with food (e.g. coating of tins, over 90% of baby bottles worldwide)
- Traceable in the organism of 95% of human beings
- It is suspected that it influences/disturbs (oestrogen-like effect) the hormonal balance of babies/infants
- Possible long-term effects:
Sterility in boys, premature adolescence in girls, weight problems/adiposity, hyperactivity, diabetes, leukaemia/prostate cancer

Polyamide (PA)

Advantages:

- Highly transparent, high-gloss
- Free from harmful substances (BPA, phthalates, PVC)
- Dishwasher-proof/resistant to dishwasher detergent
- USP class VI Pharmacopoeia pharmaceutical authorisation
- Unbreakable (even at minus temperatures)
- Extremely long-lasting (excellent price/use relationship)
- Optimal solution with rigidity and flexibility
- Lightweight (lowest density of all highly transparent thermoplastics)
- Boil-proof/sterilisable

Disadvantages:

- Low microwave resistance, if wrongly used (e.g. no liquid in the bottle)

Suppliers:

bibi, Suavinex (limited assortment)

Glass

Advantages:

- Highly transparent
- Scratch-resistant/age-resistant
- Boil-proof/temperature-resistant without restrictions (microwave, dishwasher, sterilisation) → Can split through dilation and cooling if wrongly used
- Reusable and extremely long-lasting
- Tasteless/odourless
- Recyclable
- Very good price/performance relationship (considering the durability of the bottle)

Disadvantages:

- Breaks more easily in a crash (pieces of broken glass)
- Weight (heavier than synthetic bottles)

Suppliers:

bibi, NUK, MAM, various other suppliers

Polypropylene (PP)

Advantages:

- Very flexible/bendable (disadvantage → reduced rigidity)
- Boil-proof/autoclavable
- Dishwasher-proof and suitable for microwave
- Cheaper than other materials

Disadvantages:

- Semi-transparent (milky)
- Scratch-sensitive
- Tendency to discolouration
- Assimilates odours
- Low break resistance with temperatures below zero
- Limited rigidity can lead to leaks in the screw cap
- Relatively rapid flaking off of the print colours (after approx. 30-40 wash cycles)

Suppliers:

Avent, Nuby, MAM, Bornfree, difrax, etc.

