

Human Milk Storage Guidelines

	Countertop or table	Refrigerator	Freezer with separate door
Storage Temperatures	77° F or colder (25° C)	40° F or colder (4° C)	0° F or colder (-18° C)
Freshly Pumped/ Expressed Human Milk	Up to 4 hours	Up to 4 days	Within 6 months is best, up to 12 months is acceptable
Thawed Human Milk	1-2 hours	Up to 1 day (24 hours)	Never refreeze human milk after it has been thawed

These guidelines are for healthy full-term babies and may vary for premature or sick babies. Check with your health care provider. Guidelines are for home use only and not for hospital use.



United States Department of Agriculture
Slightly Revised July 2018

Find more breastfeeding resources at:
[WICBreastfeeding.fns.usda.gov](https://wicbreastfeeding.fns.usda.gov)
cdc.gov/breastfeeding/