

Diaper rash usually causes mild redness and scaling where the diaper touches your baby's skin. In bad cases, the rash can cause pimples, blisters and other sores. If your baby's rash gets infected, the rash may be bright red and the skin may be swollen. Small red patches or spots may spread beyond the main part of the rash, even outside the diaper area.

Diaper Rash



Diaper rash is the most common infant skin problem. The rash, usually confined to the diaper area, is caused by moisture, urine, stool, or irritating chemicals, usually from the diaper. If not treated promptly and appropriately, bacteria or yeast may invade the area

and start an infection.

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Simple diaper rashes are red, slightly rough, and scaly. They usually only involve the area covered by the diaper. The skin may be irritated by chemicals in disposable diapers or in the detergent used to launder cloth diapers. Plastic or rubber pants worn over the cloth diapers sometimes affect the skin [and always hold the moisture in against the skin].

If your baby stays in wet diapers too long, microorganisms and moisture can irritate his sensitive skin, leaving a large, bright red rash. Often you will detect an ammonia odor when changing your baby's diapers.

Some babies are prone to getting yeast diaper rashes. The organism that causes the rash is the same one that causes vaginal yeast infections. The rash is usually found in the skin folds of a baby's thighs.

Any of the above rashes may become infected with bacteria. The rash, instead of getting better, begins to

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Try placing your baby on an open cloth diaper during nap time. Check the diaper shortly after your baby falls asleep and replace it if it's wet. Babies often urinate right after falling asleep. Use products that contain zinc oxide ointment (such as Desitin Ointment) or petrolatum (such as Vaseline) to protect your baby's skin from moisture.

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