



Transitioning to a Crib in the NICU

Maintaining body temperature involves calories and oxygen. The more energy your baby uses to keep warm, the less he will have for growing and healing.

Your baby will progress from the incubator or radiant warmer to an open crib based on his ability to regulate body temperature.



Regulating Body Temperature

This ability depends, in part, on gestational age and weight (/English/ages-stages/baby/preemie/pages/Corrected-Age-For-Preemies.aspx). The transition is usually gradual, but your baby may be returned to the warmer environment at the first sign of inability to maintain temperature. It's not unusual for a baby's weight gain to slow, or even for weight to drop, for a day or so during the weaning process to an open crib.

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