



What is Operation Christmas Child?

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) partners with churches to reach boys and girls who don't often get gifts. You pack a shoebox-sized box with gifts and the boxes are sent to the children to show them God loves them.

How to Pack Your Shoebox:

1. **The Box:** Use a cardboard shoebox (average size), get an official OCC shoebox by emailing restore@theridgecc.com, or use a plastic shoebox.
2. Stick a gender and age label on and include the \$9 donation for shipping costs and a tracking label! [Details here or by going to the url below.](https://www.samaritanpurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoe-box/)
3. **Fill with Gifts:**
 - Start with a "wow" gift: a doll, stuffed animal, ball with a pump, etc.
 - Small fun toys: cars, jump ropes, puzzles, yo-yos, balls.
 - Non-liquid hygiene items: toothbrush, bar soap, hair brush/comb, washcloths, hair bows, socks.
 - School supplies: pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books.
 - **NO toothpaste, lotion, candy or fruit snacks due to customs restrictions**
4. **Pray:** Pray for the child who will receive your box.



Group Options (Kid-Friendly!) for Packing Shoeboxes:

- Option #1: each group member shops for items to fill one box, brings those items to the group's packing event to pack and decorate your individual box during this event.
- Option #2: each group member shops for a specific item that will go into each box (Ex: One person shops for all the "wow" gifts, another gets all the toothbrushes, another all the school supplies). Bring the assigned items to the group packing event and pack boxes together

