

Christmas Gift Boxes for Developing Nation Children 2020

Suggested Gifts for Shoe Boxes

Boxes are to be marked with **age of the child** receiving the box. (Age range is 2-12 years) and marked **Boy OR Girl**.

Below are some suggested items that can be included in the Christmas Shoe Box.

Please ensure the items in the Christmas Shoe box are Age Appropriate. As an example marbles would not be appropriate item for a 2-3 year old (choking hazard)

Hot Wheels Cars	McDonald Happy Meal Toys (under 8yr)
Small Dolls	Marbles (no more than 5 in a small bag)
Small Balls	Sewing Kit (8 years and older)
3-4oz Bar of Soap	Fishing Kit (8 years and older)
Washcloth	Ponytail holders, barrettes etc.
Toothbrush	Comb (large teeth) or brush
4-6 Crayons	Small Hand Mirror
1 pr Flip Flops (Each box needs one pr)	Underwear 2-3 pair
Shorts & tee-shirts (boys & girls)	Dresses (Pillow case or T-shirt dresses)
1 pr Socks	Training Bra (Girls 9 yrs and older)

NO Food, Candy or Chewing Gum of Any Kind

NO Liquids of Any Kind. No Shampoo, Hand Sanitizer, Lotion Etc.

NO Toy Guns, Weapons, Soldiers, No War Toys

No Playing Cards, No Dominos (Can be used for gambling)

School Supplies: Pencils (limit 4), paper 5-7 sheets (~5”X~8” or smaller), 4-6 crayons, 4-6 colored pencils, small pencil sharpeners, etc.

Gently used items are acceptable. Please use the following guideline: If you would not give the item in question to your child, grandchild or best friend’s child then please don’t include the item in your Christmas Shoe Box.

The Disaster Relief Warehouse Furnishes: The Shoe Boxes, A Nativity/Advent Coloring Book and a Nativity Scene Sticker to help decorate the shoe box. Shoe Boxes, Coloring Books and Stickers are available at the warehouse and the HUB Churches. The warehouse can ship these items to your church if needed. Please contact the warehouse at 256-341-9961 for more information. Please try to fill each shoe box. **Please Do Not Over Fill.** If the shoe box is bulging at the top, we can’t pack the shipping case correctly and the box will have to be opened and some items removed. **Please do Not Under Fill the shoe box.** An under filled box means one child will only get one or two things, while his/her brother/sister gets a full box. This can cause unhappiness in the home.

Printed on the boxes is:

- (1) **The Manifest Form. Please fill out with a Sharpie magic marker indicating whether it is for a boy or girl and their age. It needs to list what is actually in the box.**
- (2) **The Customs Declaration Form: It's printed on the other side of the box. It should be marked Boy or Girl and Age.**
- (3) **Feel Free to decorate the outside of the boxes, PLEASE DO NOT COVER UP THE CUSTOMS FORMS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE BOX. The front of old Christmas cards can be taped on the ends, top and bottom of the boxes. Please close your shoe box with packing tape, DO NOT interweave the top or bottom flaps of the box.**

You may wish to print one or more of the following quotations **in Spanish** on the boxes **BEFORE** the boxes are distributed to your people:

He came in a lowly stable.	El Señor vino en un humilde estable.
Let the little children come unto me.	Dejad que los niños vengan a mí.
Wise men search for Him.	Hombres sabios lo buscaron
Angels announced his birth.	Los ángeles anunciaron su nacimiento.
Prophets told of His birth.	Profetas dijeron de su nacimiento.
The shepherds came to know the Savior.	Los pastores vinieron a conocer a el Salvador.
King of all kings.	Rey de todos los reyes.
A loving God.	Un Dios amoroso.
A Savior is born.	Ha nacido el Salvador.

Please mail a check payable to “Christmas Shoe Box Ministry” for \$5.00 for each shoe box OR one check for your whole group to:

U. M. Disaster Relief Warehouse, PO Box 1133 Decatur, AL 35602.

OR

U. M. Disaster Relief Warehouse, 3220 Hwy. 31 Bldg. F, Decatur, AL 35603.

PLEASE DO NOT put the money in the shoe box! \$2.50 of the \$5.00 helps get the shoe box to the missionary, and \$2.50 helps the missionary pay the cost of getting the shoe box to the neediest children! Please be sure to send the \$5.00 per shoe box.

Completed Shoe Boxes will need go to your closest “HUB Church” or to the UM Disaster relief Warehouse in Decatur AL by September 25th 2020. Custom’s documentation/requirements require that we process shipments early fall to ensure that shoe boxes are received in time for Christmas. If

your church needs assistance in returning the completed shoe boxes to the Decatur AL warehouse please contact us at 256-341-9961.

Deadlines

Sept 25th Friday	All Shoe Boxes Back in your “HUB” (pickup/drop off location) or the Decatur AL Warehouse
Oct. 9th Friday	All Shoe Boxes back to the Decatur AL Warehouse
Oct. 16th, Friday	Shoe box manifests completed. Cases of shoe boxes labeled. Customs paper work finalized. RFQs for shipments completed.
Oct 23 rd , Friday	Customs documentation forwarded to Missionary. Shipment pick up scheduled (1 month lead time to clear Customs BEFORE the container arrives in a developing nation in time for distribution to churches.)
Nov. 6th, Friday	All shipments picked up or in route to destination. For more information, please feel free to contact us at 256-341-9961 Christmasshoeboxes@gmail.com

Several churches have found that by getting people together for a Shoe Box Party on a Wednesday night, a Sunday night, during SS class, during small group or youth/VBS activity it is beneficial in sharing items like a bag of marbles, crayons, pencils, pencil sharpeners, hair ties/ barrettes, a tape gun etc. Youth and children particularly like to decorate the shoe boxes. Please note: If the shoe boxes have more than five to seven (4-6) marbles or crayons, it causes problems. If it is more than the child can hold in one hand, other children may jump on that child and take it away.

The Advent/Nativity Story Coloring Books can be sent electronically. The Advent/Nativity Story coloring book, tells the Christmas story in Spanish. The electronic copy can be printed at your church office. Make as many copies as you need. The booklet requires three pieces of paper printed on both sides. The Advent/Nativity Story coloring book can also be used

A list of the 2020 Christmas Shoe Box HUB’s (Distribution and Collections Points) is available via email. Please contact us at Christmasshoeboxes@gmail.com or 256-341-9961 for the list.