

Christmas Gift Boxes for Developing Nation Children 2021 Information Sheet

Boxes **MUST BE** marked with **Age of the Child** receiving the box. (Age range is 2-12 years) and **MUST BE** marked **Boy OR Girl**.

Please ensure the items in the Christmas Shoe box are Age Appropriate. As an example marbles would not be appropriate item for a child under 4 years old (choking hazard). Clothing should be sized appropriately. Please Do Not include Adult or Junior Size Clothing. Please Do Not Include Clothing Smaller Than 3T.

Below are items to be included in the Christmas Shoe Box.

1 pair of Flip Flops-New Condition. (See Size Chart)
1-2 pair Underwear-New Condition. (See Size Chart)
1-2 pair of Socks-New Condition. (See Size Chart)
1 pair of Shorts & 1 Tee-shirt (Boys or Girls) OR a Dress with Shorts (Girls)
OR a Training Bra with a Shirt or a Dress (Girls 8-12yrs) (See Size Chart)
3-5oz Bar of Soap with a Wash Cloth-New Condition
Toothbrush and Small Toothpaste-New Condition
Comb (large teeth) or Brush-New Condition
4-6 crayons-New condition
The Nativity Story Coloring Book supplied by the warehouse.

2 to 5 items (or similar items) listed below to fill the box.

One Small Hand Mirror	Play Jewelry 2 to 4 items (4-7 year old girls)
Hot Wheel/Matchbox Cars	One McDonald Happy Meal Toys (2yr-6yr)
One Small Doll	Marbles (5-6 in a small bag)
One Small Sport Ball	One Sewing Kit (8 years and older)
One Small Stuffed Toy	One Fishing Kit (8 years and older)
One Yoyo (Duncan brand (7-12 years)	One Bracelet Kit (8 years and older)
One Jump Rope (5 years and older)	One 6 Inch Ruler (7 years and older)
Play Dough 2 large cans or 4 small/mini (3-8 years)	
Small Hard Rubber Balls (5 years and older 2-3 in small bag)	
Ponytail Holders, Barrettes etc. (5-8 in a small plastic bag).	
4-6 Pencils, Pencil Sharpener, Small Pad of Paper (7 years and older)	
4-6 Colored Pencils, Pencil Sharpener, Small Pad of Paper (7 years and older)	

Please note: 1-3 small packs of tissues or 6-10 band aids may be included as a filler or an extra. These items are Not Considered Gifts.

It is beneficial and cost effective to share items like: underwear, socks, a bag of marbles, crayons, pencils, pencil sharpeners, hair ties/ barrettes, a tape gun etc. We realize that the pandemic is expected to affect meeting in groups through 2021 which can make sharing supplies/assembling boxes a challenge. Asking individuals in your group/class to buy an item that is packaged in quantities such as underwear, socks, marbles, pencils, crayons and then meeting in a group size/location where social distancing can be used works well. Another approach: have some individuals buy supplies, some donate shipping cost while others complete box assembly at a central location where social distancing can be used.

Gently Used and Clean clothing/toy items are acceptable. Please use the following guideline: If you would not give the item in question Wrapped As A Gift to your child, grandchild or best friend's child then please don't include the item in your Christmas Shoe Box.

NO Swimming Suits

NO Long Sleeve Shirts or Long Pants

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)

NO Card Games, NO Sport Cards, NO Books/Games (Most are in English and the children don't understand what these are)

NO Balloons

The Disaster Relief Warehouse Furnishes: The Shoe Boxes, The Nativity/Advent Coloring Book and a Nativity Scene Artwork Sticker to help decorate the shoe box. Shoe Boxes, Coloring Books and Stickers are available at the warehouse, can be printed from the website: www.umdisasterwarehouse.com and the HUB Churches. The warehouse can ship these items to your church if needed. Please contact the warehouse at 256-341-9961 or email Christmasshoeboxes@gmail.com 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, friend gets a full box. This can cause unhappiness in the home and for the children.

Printed on the sides of the shoe boxes:

IS THE MANIFEST FORM. Please fill out with a PEN indicating whether it is for a boy or girl their age and of what is actually in the box. **The Customs Declaration Form: Is printed on the other side of the box. It should be marked Boy or Girl and With The Child's Age.**

- (1) Feel Free to decorate the outside of the boxes, **PLEASE DO NOT COVER UP THE CUSTOMS FORMS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE BOX.**
- (2) **Please Put ONE Nativity Scene Artwork Sticker ON ONE END OF THE SHOE BOX. DO NOT PUT THE STICKER ANYWHERE ELSE ON THE SHOE BOX. DO NOT PUT THE NATIVITY ARTWORK STICKER IN THE SHOE BOX. THIS IS NOT A GIFT FOR THE CHILD.** This sticker is supplied by the warehouse to help with decorating the shoe box.
- (3) **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 following quotations in Spanish on the boxes. It is easier to print the quotation on the box BEFORE filling.

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 ANY MONEY IN THE SHOE BOXES! \$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 August 20th 2021. Shoe boxes CAN BE returned earlier to the warehouse! Customs requires 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 or email Christmasshoeboxes@gmail.com.**

Deadlines

August 20th Friday	All Shoe Boxes Due Back in your “HUB” (pickup/drop off location) or the Decatur AL Warehouse
Sept 10th Friday	All Shoe Boxes back to the Decatur AL Warehouse
Oct 1st, Friday	Shoe box manifests completed. Cases of shoe boxes labeled. Customs paper work finalized. RFQs for shipments completed.
Oct 15th, 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.)
Oct. 29, Friday	All shipments picked up or in route to destination. For more information, please feel free to contact us at 256-341-9961 or Christmasshoeboxes@gmail.com

A list of the 2021 Christmas Shoe Box HUB’s (Distribution and Collections Points) will be available via email May 2021. Please contact us at Christmasshoeboxes@gmail.com or 256-341-9961 for the list OR with any questions.