

HOW TO PACK AN OCC SHOEBOX !

It's time to collect items for your Operation Christmas Child Shoebox! And here are the OCC Guidelines we use in our class as we pack lots of goodies and much needed items into our boxes.



1. Get a standard size shoebox. We have OCC shoeboxes here at church (located in the narthex, outside of the Sunday School Office (2nd floor) and near the parking lot entrance on the 1st floor). If packing a sports box, or you have a larger item, feel free to use a slightly larger box (from tennis shoes). While we want to lovingly CRAM as much as we can into these boxes, we are discouraged from using boot boxes or larger, as they are harder for OCC to pack into the large shipping boxes and also may be the envy of others receiving regular-sized boxes of treasures! They can be cardboard or plastic; they can be gift-wrapped but the box lid and bottom must be wrapped separately in preparation for inspection. Knowing that this may be the first gift many of the children have ever received, our class even lines our boxes with pretty tissue paper!

Pick up other supplies you can use here at church (outside of the Sunday School office on the 2nd floor):

- A "How To Pack A Shoebox" pamphlet which includes the Boy/Girl Label for the top of your box, and a mailing envelope for a \$9.00 donation to help with the shipping cost of each box,
 - Rubber bands,
 - A "Let's Be Friends" page to tell the shoebox recipient a little about yourself.
2. Determine what gender and age your shoebox recipient will be. Categories are Boy or Girl, with age groupings of 2-4 years, 5-9 years or 10-14 years.
 3. Select a quality "WOW" toy such as a doll, soccer ball with pump or stuffed animal. If possible, place that item at the top of the box so that the child will see it immediately when opening the box.
 4. Fill the box with items, such as toys, school supplies, hygiene items (NO liquids). Many families make necklaces, crafts, and other handmade items. (I'll never forget when Emma Evans-Nolet made a little wooden train for her shoebox – what a special surprise for some little child as they opened their box!)
 5. Complete your box with photos and/or a hand-written note (DON'T WORRY - it will be translated for the shoebox recipient!)
 6. Pray for the child who will receive the shoebox. Pray also for all of the thousands of folks who will help to inspect and pack them, and then move them to their final destination.
 7. If possible, write a check for \$9.00 per box (**payable to Samaritan's Purse**), place it in an OCC envelope (from your How To Pack a Shoebox pamphlet) and then into the top of the box. Checks will be removed from the boxes at the Shoebox Processing Centers, where they are examined and readied for shipping, so placing the check on top of the items in the box will ensure that it gets collected during processing.
 8. Drop your box off outside of the 2nd floor Sunday School Office any time between now and Nov. 18, when Pastor Vic will bless all of the boxes and we will deliver them to Grace Fellowship Church.

Do NOT include: candy, toothpaste, gum, used or damaged items; war-related items; seeds; food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins, breakable items or glass containers; aerosol cans.