# baby care CREATIVE REPORT





# your creative inspiration guide for **baby care**

In the rapidly changing world of trend, Cotton Incorporated can help inspire your approach to color, print, design, packaging, and point of sale, including social trends.



# lullaby luxe

# Cotton Incorporated's baby & infant forecasting insights

When it comes to childrenswear, Cotton Incorporated's fashion marketing team is armed with research-based trend forecasts. Our expert forecasters guide you through the shifting landscape of color, prints, styling, fabrics, and fashion. Through meticulous global research and cross-industry analysis, they pinpoint market shifts and cultural directions with precision. The team showcases how these trends can apply to cotton-rich products, offering actionable strategies for retailers to capitalize on emerging opportunities.

Cotton Incorporated's baby collection is a collaboration between our nonwovens and fashion marketing divisions, actualized by contracted designer Muriel Fuster of Petitpattern. Fuster transformed youth color forecasting into delightful baby diaper prints to inspire.



### market color forecasts

Cotton Incorporated's fashion marketing team is a color compass in the ever-changing trend landscape. Precise forecasts and insightful strategies informed our vibrant, playful baby care market colors below. To access original youth forecasting that inspired these palettes, visit **CottonWorks.com/trend-forecast**.

Cotton Incorporated's fall/winter 2025-2026 baby care color palette



### Cotton Incorporated's spring/summer 2025-2026 baby care color palette



## trend scouting

### uncovering hidden gems

During a fashion quest, our trend experts discovered an enchanting fusion of dark botanicals and winter tropical, emerging as a pivotal trend in our fall/winter 24/25 apparel forecast. Evoking motifs reminiscent of summer months, this trend beckons us to embrace the unexpected and "fall" into nature's beauty in baby.



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Dark botanical onesie is a digital representation. Colors are printed or digital representations for users; actual colors can be obtained at PANTONE.com

Cotton Incorporated's fall/winter 2025-2026 baby care color palette











Cotton Incorporated's fall/winter 2025-2026 baby care color palette











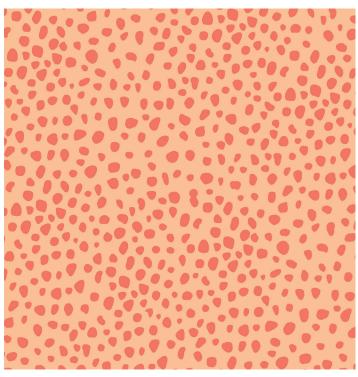


Cotton Incorporated's spring/summer 2025-2026 baby care color palette











## design trends



#### **GENDER-NEUTRAL**

Historically, diapers were designed with gender-specific designated "pee points" that had extra absorbency based on where a baby boy or baby girl may need added support. Now, diapers are mostly gender-neutral in their technical constructions except for pull-ups, which are designed for absorbency needs. Cotton Incorporated's print release features gender-neutral designs to help manufacturers maximize appeal.



#### **CREATIVE COLOR & TEXTURE**

Movement, joy & dopamine-boosting colors continue to lead packaging and product trends, along with plush, soothing textures.<sup>1</sup>



#### **SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS**

From sustainable ingredient choices to minimal packaging, brands that "treat nature as a board member" have a right to win.<sup>2</sup>





# creating a cohesive cotton story

design for consumer-centric pain points

Creating a cohesive, consumer-centric experience through design can help strengthen your brand. According to Cotton's 2024 Global Baby Care Survey (N=4,461), 8 out of 10 of consumers (85%) say they are most satisfied with the ease of use of diapers, fit, and comfort followed by absorbency (83%) and protects against leaks/ blowouts (83%). These indicators reveal top pain points to consider in your product development. Using cotton as an ingredient in your design also has its advantage as globally, 55% of consumers say disposable baby diapers made from natural materials is important to them when purchasing, and according to Cotton Incorporated's Lifestyle Monitor™ survey, 83% of parents in the U.S. prefer diapers to be made of cotton.

### shifting to sustainability

Natural fibers in baby care, plastic-free packaging, and the rise of eco brands

The rise of sustainable brands focusing on transparency and natural fibers in diaper and wipe production signals a shift from plastic to biodegradable materials. While fully plastic-free disposable diapers are not actualized, emerging brands are incorporating more natural fibers and reconsidering their packaging strategies too.

In response to consumer demand to reduce waste and combat plastic pollution, plastic-free packaging is becoming more prevalent across consumer goods. With increasing regulations and consumer expectations, brands have an opportunity to enhance their reputation by prioritizing minimal, plastic-free packaging made from recyclable, compostable, or biodegradable materials. Cotton Incorporated supports this movement by promoting natural fibers in both products offering a path toward more sustainable manufacturing practices in the baby care sector.

## product & packaging trends



**ICONIC ILLUSTRATIONS** In the spirit of play, increase brand recall with memorable artwork



**INGREDIENT IMAGERY** Tell an authentic and transparent story through functional aesthetics



**TEXT & TYPOGRAPHY** Catch consumers' eyes with clean, font-forward designs



**BABY MOTIF** Remind customers who the product is for with realistic infant imagery

**VISUALS & VIRAL MOMENTS** Tap into modern parent trends and inspire social media sharing with classic, clean designs, bold colors, or trending gradients.3

### the cotton advantage at point of sale

As a natural fiber grown from the earth, cotton sends a powerful message to consumers in regard to the environment. Parents prefer cotton as a solution to plastic synthetics, and leveraging the Seal of Cotton trademark on packaging acts as a bold cotton identifier, helping brands communicate their commitment to sustainable, earth-conscious ingredients. Cotton Incorporated is open to collaborating with brands that want to utilize cotton in diaper packaging as a natural and sustainable option.



of global companies invest in sustainability because of the consumer perceptions and for brand reputations

Surveyed consumers said they are willing to pay more for benefits like ability to reseal, ability to extend product life, easy to store, and easy to open.6



# point of sale case study

Cotton Incorporated's 2024 100% Cotton Nonwoven Baby Care Trials

Introducing premium, plastic free baby wipes with 100% cotton.<sup>10</sup> Project NW-1047 showcases a blend of 50% TruCotton™ TC-1S virgin and 50% HighQ® bleached cotton, maximizing processing efficiency, strength, absorbency, liquid retention, and softness." Prototypes for packaging and retail displays illustrate the marketing opportunity of cotton and the Seal of Cotton Trademark. Explore the trial report on the Parents Prefer Cotton collection at:

CottonWorks.com/BabyCare

# baby trends on social | spring 2024

Parents come to social not just to share content about their baby's journey, but also to learn and gather information. **Platforms like Instagram, TikTok, and Pinterest** give brands the opportunity to educate and dialog with parents in a meaningful way. There's opportunity to highlight powerful cotton messaging since sustainability paired with baby care/diapers/wipes is trending on TikTok.

### top theme trends on social







#momlife | 78.8M

#### Authenticity and focus on real life

Brands can appeal to parents by focusing on how their products address parents' specific needs, such as ease of use, efficiency, and effectiveness

#### #babylife | 3M Family dynamics Brands can speak to all types of

parents by featuring diverse families and key benefits, like skin safety

#### #babyproducts | 1.4M Clean, sustainable & skin safe Brands have an opportunity to use social to share their sustainability stories

### current influencer trends on social

- PARENT HACKS
- BUY THIS, NOT THAT
- FUNNY COMEDY (MOMS AND BABIES)
- POSTPARTUM CARE
- BABY INFO (MILESTONES)
- BABY REGISTRIES
- HOW-TOS



### social media to watch

#### mom influencers

Tia Booth 1.4M Lindsay Arnold Cusick 1.4M Hannah Bronfman 1.2M Amber Fillup 1.2M Joanna Garcia Swisher 671K Sivan Ayla 509K Erin Dana Lichy 449K Angela Kim 303K

#### baby brands Buddle

Coterie Hello Bello **Honest Company Pampers** 

#### baby retailers

Amazon Target Walmart

### trending hashtags

#momlife 78.8M #babylife 3M #babyproducts 1.4M #momtips 395K #clean products 278K

### social targeting highlights

#### **PINTEREST**

Baby care (diapers) audience size 800K

#### **SNAPCHAT**

Parents and family focused audience size 50MM

#### TIKTOK

Baby bedding audience size 16.5MM Diapers and baby wipes audience size 12MM Baby, kids, maternity audience size 1.5 MM

#### **META**

Parents (of children up to 12 months old) interested in sustainability and/or ethical consumerism audience size 15MM

Diapers or cloth diapers and sustainability audience size 8MM





### partnerships on social

Prominently calling out partnerships on social is trending. Take Hello Bello X Walmart collaboration, #WalmartBabyDays, where the brand's diapers are a retail feature.

From product to point of sale, Cotton Incorporated facilitates similar brand partnerships using the Seal of Cotton trademark, a mark consumers trust. With sustainability currently trending on social, Cotton Incorporated is poised to work with brands in creative ways through our royalty-free licensing program.

Connect with your account representative to learn more about cotton promotion.

# the power of the Seal is real

Consumers trust cotton to be natural and earth-friendly, so it's no surprise that two out of three parents expect their baby care products to contain cotton, with even higher numbers in China, Turkey, and Latin America, approaching 80%. From product to promotion, companies can leverage the Seal of Cotton trademark as a key design element to help their products stand out to parents.



product

Boost your products with the Seal of Cotton trademark, signaling premium quality, comfort, and durability to customers.

packaging

Enhance product packaging and shelf presence with the Seal of Cotton trademark, instantly attracting discerning parents with its authenticity.

Attract shoppers at point of sale with the Seal of Cotton trademark, point of sale instilling confidence in the superior attributes of cotton.

promotion

Boost loyalty by promoting the Seal of Cotton trademark. Highlight cotton's versatility, performance, and eco qualities to establish leadership in comfortable, sustainable products.



### what will you create?

To feature the Seal of Cotton trademark on your products, contact your Cotton Incorporated account representative.

Find out more at CottonWorks.com/BabyCare,
Or reach out at Nonwovens@CottonInc.com

Cary

**New York** 

Hong Kong

Shanghai

**Mexico City** 



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- 1 Fashion Snoops, Girls Seasonal Narrative, KINETIC, Spring/Summer 25, Page 2
- 2 WGSN, Buyers' Briefing: Baby & Toddler Colour & Print A/W 24/25, Page 1, 2023
- 3 Art Workflow HQ. "7 Baby Care Packaging Trends." Art Workflow HQ, www.artworkflowhq.com/resources/baby-care-packaging-trends#:~: text=7%20Baby%20Care%20Packaging%20Trends%20to%20go%20(Goo,6.%20Gradients%20and%20blends%20...%207%207%20Typography.
- 4 Cotton Incorporated's 2024 Baby Care Survey, N=499 U.S. parents/guardians
- 5 Euromonitor International 2023 Passport, Consumer Packaging Strategies: Adapting to Cost Pressures (December 2023)
- 6 Mordor Intelligence. "Baby Care Packaging Market Growth, Trends, COVID-19 Impact, and Forecasts (2022 2027)." Mordor Intelligence, www.mordorintelligence.com/industry-reports/baby-care-packaging-market/market-trends.
- 7 2024 Mindshare Internal Research and 2024 GALE Internal Research (Spring)
- 8 Cotton Incorporated's 2024 Global Baby Care Survey (N=4,461). The survey was conducted in 9 countries (USA, Brazil, China, France, Germany, Mexico, South Korea, Turkey, and UK)
- 9 Cotton Incorporated's 2024 Lifestyle Monitor™ survey
- 10 TruCotton™ TUV Biodegradability Certification
- 11 Cotton Incorporated 2024 Baby Care Trial Report