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If you have a baby or a toddler of your own now, diapers are figuratively one of your babyâ€™s â€“ and maybe also your - best friends. They are the only friend who will gladly take crap without complaining at all. They also wonâ€™t shed a tear if they are disposed off and replaced by new ones.

Having to dispose of them, though, can cost you. The non-profit Real Diapers Association recently reports that at an average cost of 25.5 cents per disposable diaper, youâ€™ll have spent about $1,600 ($66 per month) for the babyâ€™s first two years. This is probably one reason why reusable diapers are making a comeback after years of oversight. Thinking about making a big switch to reusable ones? You can read here information about the two types of diapers to help you come up with a decision.

Disposable Diapers

Thanks to disposable diapers, you didnâ€™t cause a mess on your surroundings and sleep well at night when you were a baby. Just simply remove the diaper, clean up, replace with a new one and you are good to go.

If the costs of using disposable diapers donâ€™t really faze you, consider this: an estimated 27.4 billion disposable diapers are used in the U.S. alone. About 3.4 million tons out of those go into landfills annually, not yet considering the amount of waste they carry. A study written by Carl Lehrburger, Jocelyn Mullen, and C.V. Jones concludes that â€œsingle-use diapers are shown to generate significantly more solid waste, to consume greater quantities of energy and raw materials, and to generate more potentially toxic pollutants on a per-diaper-change basis." One can only imagine what adverse effects they can have on both health and the environment.

Reusable Diapers

As the name implies, you can reuse them again and again (after cleaning and letting them dry, that is) until theyâ€™re finally worn out after a long period of time. Are cloth swim diapers reusable? Absolutely, more so if theyâ€™re taken care of as well.

Practically the only catch to using reusable diapers is you have to wash them after use. While it can add to your laundry list, at least you donâ€™t have to throw them in the trash, watch them pile up, and take crap from them when itâ€™s time for disposal. Besides, a reusable swim diaper wonâ€™t necessarily give your child rashes even while taking a dip.

To recap, you have the usual disposable diapers, then the returning reusable diapers. Which one to use is really up to you. You can also read more about reusable swim diapers at RealDiaperAssociation.org and UncommonBottom.com.

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