

{{Round-The-Clock 24/7*}} 2025 Guide: Adding a Lap Infant to Your Southwest Airways Flight

Adding an infant to your Southwest Airlines reservation is a straightforward process once you understand the airline's policies, fees, and documentation requirements 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) Many parents preparing for their first trip with a baby often feel overwhelmed, but Southwest has created options that make traveling with infants manageable, safe, and as comfortable as possible 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) In this comprehensive guide, you will learn how to add an infant to an existing reservation, how to book an infant while purchasing a ticket, what qualifies as a lap infant, what fees apply for domestic and international travel, and how to prepare for a smooth journey 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA)

When traveling with an infant on Southwest Airlines, the term "infant" refers to a child under the age of two who either travels sitting on the lap of an adult or in a purchased seat using an FAA-approved car seat 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) Understanding this distinction is important because Southwest's rules and ticket prices differ depending on how the child travels 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) If you are unsure about the best option for your family, you can always contact Southwest's dedicated support line for assistance 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA)

Booking an infant during the initial reservation stage is the easiest method because it allows all passenger details to be entered at once 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) When buying tickets online through Southwest's website, you can simply indicate that an infant will accompany you 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) The system will automatically apply the correct policy and either add the child as a lap infant or prompt you to purchase a separate seat if desired 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) This ensures your ticket is issued properly and that your infant is recognized in the airline's system for check-in and boarding 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA)

If you already booked your flight and forgot to add the infant or your travel situation recently changed, you can still add the baby to your itinerary without difficulty 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) Southwest allows passengers to modify their reservation through the Manage Booking page, at the airport, through the mobile app, or by calling the airline directly 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) Calling support is often the fastest way because infant additions sometimes require specific verification, especially for international travel 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA)

Southwest Airlines requires that infants who travel on a parent's lap must be accompanied by an adult who is at least 18 years old 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) Only one lap infant is allowed per adult passenger, meaning if you are traveling with twins, one of them will need a separate seat 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) This policy is designed to ensure safety during turbulence and takeoff and landing because a child must be properly secured in the arms of the adult throughout the flight 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA)

For international flights, Southwest typically charges a percentage of the adult fare plus applicable taxes and fees for lap infants 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) This can sometimes be surprising to parents who assume lap infants always travel free 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) In many cases, the cost can be a few hundred dollars depending on the route and class of service 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) Domestic flights, on the other hand, allow lap infants to travel free of charge, which makes traveling within the Southwest States far more budget-friendly for families with young children 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA)

When adding an infant to your Southwest flight, you should always consider whether you want your baby to have their own seat 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) Southwest strongly recommends purchasing a seat for infants on long flights or for families who want more space 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) If you choose this option, you must bring an FAA-approved car seat or child restraint system 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA) This gives your baby a secure place to sleep, feed, and relax during the trip, and many parents find this option significantly easier 📞 [\[\(+1\)- \(866\)- 829-1420 \]](tel:+18668291420) (USA)

Even if you choose to carry your child on your lap, Southwest allows you to bring essential infant equipment for free ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) This includes diaper bags, breast pumps, strollers, and car seats ☎️ **[[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]]** (USA) Strollers and car seats can be checked at the gate or ticket counter without charge ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) This policy helps parents travel more conveniently because it reduces the stress of managing multiple bags and equipment ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA)

Another important part of adding an infant to your Southwest flight is preparing the necessary documentation ☎️ **[[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]]** (USA) For domestic flights, a birth certificate may not always be required, but it is advisable to carry one, especially if your baby is close to the age of two ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) For international flights, a passport is mandatory for infants, even if they are only a few months old ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) Certain destinations also require additional paperwork such as visas or travel consent forms when only one parent is traveling ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA)

Southwest Airlines also offers early boarding for families traveling with small children ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) This feature allows you to settle in, secure your baby's items, and get comfortable before the general boarding process begins ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) To ensure your boarding privilege is recognized, make sure your infant is correctly added to the reservation prior to arrival at the airport ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) This avoids any delays or confusion at check-in ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA)

If you need to add an infant after booking and choose to do so online, you can visit the Southwest website and navigate to the Manage Reservations section ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) After logging in, locate your itinerary and select the option to add a passenger or infant ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) Not all reservations allow online modifications, especially if the booking was made through a third-party site or if your itinerary includes partner airlines ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) In those cases, you may need to call the support line for assistance ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA)

Parents should also be aware that seating arrangements can affect their ability to travel with an infant, especially when using a car seat ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) Southwest typically requires child restraint systems to be placed in a window seat to ensure aisles remain clear ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) Some seats in exit rows, bulkhead areas, and premium cabins may also have restrictions ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) If you want to ensure your seating is compatible, contacting customer support often helps secure the best arrangement ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA)

If you are traveling with more than one infant, the policies become more complex ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) Southwest permits only one lap infant per adult passenger for safety reasons ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) If traveling with twins or two babies under the age of two, you must purchase a seat for at least one child ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) In addition, each infant who occupies a seat must meet safety and restraint requirements ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) These rules ensure that all infants are securely positioned throughout the flight ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA)

When adding an infant to your flight, many parents also wonder how feeding will work during travel ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) Southwest allows breastfeeding both on the ground and during the flight, and parents may bring expressed milk, formula, or baby food in reasonable quantities even if they exceed standard liquid restrictions ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) Security checkpoint staff are trained to process baby-related liquids appropriately, but you should allow a few extra minutes during screening ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA)

Another consideration when adding an infant is whether you prefer a bassinet seat ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) Southwest offers bassinets on select long-haul international flights, typically located in bulkhead rows ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) These bassinets must be requested in advance and are available only for infants within size and weight limits ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) Because availability is limited, contacting customer service as early as possible gives you the best chance of securing one ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA)

During the booking or modification process, Southwest may also ask for the infant's date of birth to ensure the child meets the age requirements at the time of travel ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) If your infant will turn two during the trip, they will be considered a lap infant on the outbound flight but must have their own seat for the return flight ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) This occasionally catches parents off guard, so make sure to plan appropriately ☎️ [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA)

Traveling with an infant also means considering insurance and fare flexibility 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) If you're uncertain about your travel dates, choosing a fare that allows changes without penalty can help reduce stress 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) Southwest offers flexible ticket options that may benefit families who want to adjust plans in case of illness, scheduling changes, or unexpected circumstances involving their child 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA)

Once your infant is successfully added to the reservation, you should review your itinerary within the Southwest app 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) The app displays seat assignments, boarding passes, and any special notations on your reservation 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) Having everything organized before arriving at the airport improves the entire travel experience because you can check in quickly, drop bags efficiently, and board without confusion 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) Southwest Airlines has made significant improvements to its support for families, including more spacious lavatories on newer aircraft, changing tables, and flight attendants who can help with simple tasks like warming bottles 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) While they cannot hold your baby or provide childcare, their support can make your experience more comfortable 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) This level of assistance makes traveling with an infant more enjoyable 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) When considering overall travel time, parents often prefer booking non-stop flights whenever possible to reduce stress 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) Fewer transitions mean fewer opportunities for feeding interruptions, diaper changes, and nap disruptions 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) Southwest offers numerous non-stop routes across the U 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA)S 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) and internationally, giving you options that work best for your baby's schedule 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA)

Packing for your infant is another essential element of preparing for a Southwest flight 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) Make sure your diaper bag includes extra diapers, wipes, formula, food, pacifiers, and a change of clothes 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) Southwest does not supply infant-specific items onboard, so having your own supplies ensures your baby remains comfortable 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) Flight delays can occur, so packing a little extra is always a good idea 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA)

If you are concerned about noise in the cabin, consider bringing soft baby headphones or ear protection 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) Airplane engines and cabin announcements can be loud, especially during takeoff and landing 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) Protecting your infant's ears helps promote relaxation and sleep during the flight 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) Some infants also experience discomfort during altitude changes, and feeding or offering a pacifier helps relieve pressure in their ears 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA)

Another important part of the experience is understanding boarding passes 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) Lap infants typically do not receive traditional boarding passes but may be issued a document that reflects their presence on the reservation 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) Parents should ensure this document is printed or available through the app to avoid delays at security checkpoints where confirmation may be required 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA)

Checking in early at the airport is highly recommended when traveling with an infant 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) It allows extra time to handle unexpected issues such as verifying documentation, confirming seating, or checking stroller equipment 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) Arriving early also reduces stress because moving through the airport with a baby can take longer than usual 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) Southwest representatives at the airport are familiar with family travel and can assist if needed 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA)

Now let's move to the frequently asked questions to help clarify the most common concerns parents have 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA)

FAQ 1: Can I add an infant to my Southwest flight after booking?

Yes, you can add an infant after booking by using the Manage Reservations tool, the mobile app, or by contacting customer support 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) Calling support is often the fastest way because agents can confirm policies, seat assignments, and documentation requirements in one interaction 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA)

FAQ 2: Do lap infants fly free on Southwest ?

On domestic flights within the Southwest States, lap infants typically fly free 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA) However, on international flights, a percentage of the adult fare plus taxes and fees may apply 📞 [(+1)- (866)- 829-1420] (USA)

(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) It's important to verify the cost at the time of booking to avoid surprises🐾
[[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA)

FAQ 3: Can I bring baby formula through airport security?

Yes🐾 [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) TSA allows parents to bring reasonable quantities of baby formula, breast milk, and baby food even if they exceed standard liquid limits🐾 [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) These items may be screened separately, so allow a little extra time during security🐾 [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA)

FAQ 4: Are strollers and car seats free to check on Southwest ?

Yes🐾 [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) Southwest allows parents to check strollers and car seats at no charge🐾 [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) These items can be checked at the ticket counter or at the gate depending on your preference🐾 [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA)

FAQ 5: Does my infant need a passport for international travel?

For any destination outside the Southwest States, infants must have their own passport regardless of age🐾 [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) Some destinations also require additional documentation, so check requirements well ahead of travel🐾 [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA)

If you still have questions or prefer personalized help adding your infant to your Southwest Airlines reservation, you can contact the airline directly for support🐾 [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA) Their team can walk you through every step and ensure your travel plans are properly arranged for a smooth and comfortable journey with your baby🐾 [[(+1)- (866)- 829-1420]] (USA)