

Top 10 Non-food Items to Have in Home Storage

BY PREPAREDNESSMAMA ON JULY 19, 2018 *

You Can Never Be Too Prepared. **Identify the Home Storage Items Your Family Does Not Want to Be Caught Without.** Here's a top 10 list to get you started.

But there is more to preparedness than having the ability to have a full tummy in an emergency. There are other non-food items you need to have in your home storage if you want to really be prepared.

The first step is just to take an inventory of what you have and then identify what you are missing, the process is easy.

- Make a list of all the non-food items you would like to have around
- Identify the average cost and top price you're willing to pay for it
- Set a monthly budget for these extra items – even \$10 makes a difference
- Look for sales as you are doing your regular shopping
- If you can't find an item this week or month, save up the money until you do find it.

1. **Toilet Paper** – I look for it on sale and stock up. Do not be caught without it. Also have a supply of paper towels and tissues.

2. **Pain relievers and cold medicines** – There's nothing worse than being sick and not having the first aid supplies you need. Check the dollar store for sample items and be sure to rotate them. Include personal prescriptions

3. **Batteries** – This one is kinda obvious. Take a look at the most common battery needs for your household and get some of every size, AAA to D.

4. **Duct tape** – There are so many uses for this, it's amazing. From tent hole repairs – to bandages – to rope. If you can imagine using duct tape in a project, it will probably work.

5. **Paper goods** – Having a supply of paper plates, cups, towels and plastic utensils can be invaluable when the power is out. We always use the real thing when we can, but keeping paper goods handy means I don't have to worry about washing dishes during a power outage. It also comes in handy when unexpected guests drop by!

6. **Plastic zip bags** – I like to use the heavy duty, freezer storage strength kind. I use them for all kinds of things. I love how you can freeze meals flat and then

stand them up on end, they are my top space saver item in the freezer. Zip bags are also great to use in your emergency kits. I can't think of a better way to keep things separated (your shampoo broke in your kit, Oh No!) and protected from water and mishaps.

7. **Soap** – Keep some good old bar soap on hand. Along with frequent handwashing, it is your most effective weapon in fighting germs. Better yet, get supplies to make your own soap and learn how to do it. This includes shampoo, and laundry detergent.

8. **Contractor trash bags** – There are about as many uses for a trash bag as there are for duct tape. I'm talking about the black, heavy duty, contractor ones that you can purchase at home repair stores. You can make rope from it, build a tent to stay dry or clean-up a mess in an emergency. "Mom With A Prep" has some more ideas.

9. **Tarps** – Another multi-functional preparedness item, the tarp is invaluable for protecting you, and your things, from the elements.

10. **Personal hygiene products** – Unless you want to go back to the way it was done in the olden days, you should store pads and tampons. The pads we use today were developed as bandages, to absorb the blood of war wounds and can still be used for this purpose. Include toothpaste & toothbrushes, comb/brush.

Can't decide what your top 10 non-food items are? We think you can never be too prepared.

What are the Emergency Preparedness Supplies your family does not want to be without?