



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX PACKING TIPS

*What goes in the box is Fun! What comes out is Eternal!  
Every shoebox shares the Good News of Jesus Christ and  
blesses children with joy, hope and love.*

- **Be sure to pick up a “How to Pack” brochure** from the Operation Christmas Child (OCC) table in the reception hall. A “Suggested Items” list is also available to get you started.
- Free Red/Green shoeboxes are available. Alternatively, you can use an average size cardboard shoebox or a plastic shoebox. If you decide to wrap the box, please wrap the lid and shoebox separately.
- Include a “WOW” toy such as a soccer ball with pump, doll, shoes or stuffed animal. Fill the remaining space with other quality toys (puzzles, jump ropes, cars etc.), non-liquid hygiene items and school supplies.
- The following types of candy can be included in shoebox gifts: hard candy, gummy bears, caramels, taffy and gum --- as long as the expiration date is June 2017 or later. Please place all candy in a small plastic bag.
- If you choose to include toothpaste, please be sure the expiration date is June 2017 or later.
- Please **DO NOT INCLUDE**: used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; seeds; chocolate or food; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.
- Your shoebox items will fit better if you remove tags and packaging material first.
- Donate \$7 online to **Follow Your Box** and discover the destination of your shoebox at [www.samaritanspurse.org/occ](http://www.samaritanspurse.org/occ) OR add \$7 donation on the top of the box to help with shipping costs. (The “How to Pack” Brochure contains details and an envelope.)
- Secure your box with one or two rubber bands. Please do not tape your box shut.
- Print the label from your **Follow Your Box** donation OR cut out the label from the “How to Pack” brochure. Remember to mark the age range. Tape the Boy/Girl label to the top of the box.
- PRAY for the child who will receive your box. Children love to receive a personal note and photo.
- Deliver your filled shoebox to the big Operation Christmas Child Drop-Off carton in the reception hall. Sunday November 13<sup>th</sup> is the deadline.

For more shoebox information and tips, please visit [www.samaritanspurse.org/occ](http://www.samaritanspurse.org/occ).