I always prefer to feed my baby goats fresh goat milk. We milk the mother and put it in a bottle to feed the baby. We do not pasteurize the milk for the baby. Feed it raw milk! The baby needs all the beneficial enzymes, vitamins and good bacteria contained in the raw milk in order to thrive.

The only time that I would recommend pasteurization is if the mother is positive for CAE or any other disease or illness.

If fresh milk is not available I would personally give my babies store bought goats milk before giving the baby powdered milk that is made for baby goats. I’ve heard to many horror stories involving powdered milk and I definitely would stay away from it.

I use a soda bottle to feed my baby goats! I know that sounds strange but I have found that they work the best. We don’t drink soda so we buy the 16.9 oz. bottles (larger as the baby grows or if you are feeding multiple babies together) dump the soda out and fill them with milk. Rinse them well before filling with milk. The reason for soda instead of water bottles is that water bottles are made from thinner plastic. The goat will literally suck the bottle flat if it is to thin! Soda bottles seem to work the best.

I use a Pritchard Teat Nipple to feed the babies. It is very convenient because it screws directly onto the soda bottle. That way you don’t have to worry about the baby pulling the nipple off and your milk spilling all over the ground!

Visit my blog [www.theorganicgoatlady.com](http://www.theorganicgoatlady.com) and read *How to Care For Your Newborn Goat* for more feeding tips, pictures and links to find all of the items that you will need. You will also find other goat care articles and videos on the blog as well.

Here is the bottle-feeding schedule that I recommend:

For Days 1 Thru Days 3-5: For the First 3-5 days you will need to feed you baby goat 5 times a day. Feed the baby as much milk as it would like. Be sure that the baby is fed colostrum within the first hour after being born.

For Days 6 Thru Days 14-21: After day 5 go decrease to 3 times per day. Depending on the baby you will need to give it a bottle 3 times a day until it reach 2-3 weeks of age. Still give the baby as much milk as it would like. During this time start offering the baby some hay and grain. It will take it a while to get the hang of solid but will begin to nibble.

For Ages 3 to 6 Weeks: From ages 3 to 6 weeks give the baby a bottle 2 times per day. I would still give the baby as much milk as it would like at this point. Continue to offer grain and hay.

For Ages 6-8 Weeks: From ages 6 to 8 wees you can decrease the baby to 1 bottle per day. If you want to continue with 2 bottles per day you can. But at this point I generally decrease to 1 bottle at night and offer hay and feed in the morning. I still give the baby as much as it would like at night in its bottle.

For Ages 8 weeks and up: From the age of 8 weeks and up you can gradually cut to ½ a bottle a day and then to no bottle. A baby has to be fed milk for up to 8 weeks at least. I personally think that the baby will grow faster and be a healthier adult the longer that it receives milk. I have given milk for up until about 6 months of age once a day in a bucket before and I feel that the goats that receive this are much healthier and stronger. On the other hand I have stopped babies at 8 weeks and while they were still healthy animals I don’t feel that they grew as fast or as strong as the babies that were fed milk longer. This decisions is totally up to you.

I hope this bottle-feeding schedule has been helpful to you! Thanks for reading and for following my blog! Good luck on your goat journey!