

Abi cooling cot FAQs for donors

What is an Abi cooling cot?

The Abi cooling cot is a cold cot produced by Abigail's Footsteps in partnership with The Bond Group. Abi Cots are designed to allow bereaved parents to spend a larger amount of time with their baby in order to grieve and say goodbye as a family. Our cots are a hard case unit not suitable for taking home and different from the Cuddle Cot design.

How much does an Abi cooling cot cost to donate?

We ask donors to raise a total of £3,000 to provide an Abi cooling cot to a workplace in need, this might be a bereavement suite, hospice, neo natal unit or funeral directors. The full amount raised will cover the cot manufacturing, courier costs, admin and a memory plaque for the cot.



Can I choose the words on my plaque?

You can choose your own wording up to 4 lines in length, we can send you examples of other plaques to give you an idea of the size. Generally, you can fit 'Donated in loving memory of [Full name of your baby] [Date of birth] 'A line or two of a poem or quote.'

A heart shape will be cut out from the bottom of your memorial plaque. The heart cut out will be presented to you once your Abi Cooling Cot donation is delivered. We hope this will serve as a meaningful keepsake, symbolising your love and the positive difference your efforts have made in honour your baby.

How can I raise funds to donate an Abi cooling cot?

Throughout the year we have lots of organised events you can take part in to raise funds, if you would like more details please email events@abigailsfootsteps.co.uk We can also give you lots of ideas if you would like to arrange your own events and supply you with any branded materials you require, such as; collection buckets, collections tins, banners, t-shirts, etc.

How will I send you the funds?

If you set up a JustGiving fundraising page and link it directly to Abigail's Footsteps we will automatically receive the funds and set them aside, please make sure you have given us your URL link so we can monitor the funds as they come through. If you prefer to fundraise for the full amount and then transfer to the charity bank account, we can provide you with these details once you have finished fundraising.

What if I raise more than the target required to donate an Abi cooling cot?

Unless you specify otherwise, your excess funds raised will gratefully be put towards our bereavement training programme for healthcare professionals and our specialist baby loss counselling programme for parents, to further help support bereaved families.

Can I choose which hospital to donate my Abi cooling cot to?

We welcome you to choose a hospital, but you would need to confirm with the bereavement midwife that they require an Abi Cot at their facility. Storage space is often restricted on wards, and it might be the case that they do not need one, so it is always best to check before fundraising.

What happens if you do not have a hospital on your waiting list when I finish fundraising?

We hold a waiting list of requests for cots, but sometimes we must wait for a request to come in. If we have no where to place your cot donation, we will hold the funds in restricted reserves so when a request comes in your funds won't have been spent on anything else. We cannot guarantee your cot will be placed near to where you live, our mission is to make sure every hospital in the United Kingdom has at least one cot, preferably two, space permitting.

When will my cot donation be delivered?

Abi cooling cots are made to order, once your fundraising target has been met and we receive the full £3,000 the order will be placed with the manufacturers, the cot takes 6-8 weeks to be made. Sometimes this can be longer, depending on part availability.

Can I go see my cot once it's been delivered to the hospital?

It's always a lovely to go and see the cot for an official handover with the health care professionals, if that is something you would like to do. You can take pictures to share and thank all your family, friends and colleagues that have made the donation possible. The visit will need to be agreed by the staff at a mutually convenient time.

Abi cooling cot testimonials from health care professionals:

"We have found the Abi Cot to be beneficial to the families we look after in our bereavement suite. The baby is able to stay with their family for a longer period of time giving them time to grieve and to say their goodbyes. These days are so special to the family and thank you for helping us to achieve this." Bereavement Midwife, Ormskirk and District General Hospital.

"The Abi Cot looks beautiful and is very easy to use for maternity staff, and it is very easy to move around the room. It has become a vital piece of equipment for our unit and we are so grateful to be able to offer parents precious time and space to be with their babies." Lead Midwife, Wexham Park Hospital.

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