

WHAT NOT TO DO

AT A BABY SHOWER

- Don't require advance homework for guests. Buying a gift is work enough.
- Don't make it a surprise. Surprises are not a good idea in late pregnancy.
- Don't share pregnancy, childbirth, or parenting horror stories. Really, none. Seriously, cut it out.
- No jokes, gifts, cards, or games that point out how giant the mom is.
- No games involving poop, even if it's really chocolate. They've got enough crap in their future.
- Don't play "pin the" anything "on" anything.
- No anatomical cakes. Do not defile the wonder that is cake. It may be the only thing that brings the mom comfort right now.
- No edible babies of any sort.
- Nothing that humiliates the mom. Right now her life is 37% humiliation, with more to come.
- Nothing that involves toilet paper. Why?
- No one should end up wearing a diaper, real or fabricated, except for guests under 3.
- No charades. That won't end well.
- Don't give baby clothes that need to be dry cleaned, hand washed, or washed in cold water. Yeah, those'll get worn.
- Don't dress the dad up as a baby. The mom will never want to have sex with him again.
- Never use the phrase "advanced maternal age."

