

BabyStyle used to be best known for their traditionally styled 'Prestige' prams, and are now well loved for their Oyster range too. The Oyster 2 has a few extra little features hidden up its sleeve

What's in the box?

- Oyster 2 chassis
- 4 wheels
- Instruction Manual
- Seat Unit
- Raincover
- Bumper Bar

Required option:

- Colour Pack: Includes a hood, seat liner, padded apron and head hugger.

Price: R7999 for the Chassis and R1899 for the Colour Pack = R9898.00

Accessories:

Carry Cot – R3350

Car seat adaptors – R550

Parasol – R599

Change bag – R1199

Snack tray – R299

Bottle Holder – R179

Specifications

- Age – from birth. There is also the option to buy a carrycot
- Dimensions (max) 94 x 55 x 106cm
- Folded dimensions (max) 52 x 55 x 70cm
- Seat back height 48cm
- Seat and footrest 41cm
- Weight 11kg (with wheels and seat)

Colours

The BabyStyle Oyster 2 comes with a choice of either a black or a chrome chassis.



You can then choose your colour pack from Grape, Ocean, Lime, Tomato and Black.



BabyStyle Oyster 2 Review: Chassis

With a chunky, tubular frame, the BabyStyle Oyster 2 shouts style and demands attention. We have the mirror shine chassis for review, which looks beautiful and classy.

The handlebar is a luxury feeling leather coated affair which is both comfortable to hold and good to look at. The handlebar is adjustable from 93 to 106cm, so should be perfect for almost anyone to push. Adjusting is child's play – just push in a button on the handlebar and it will slide up and down, telescoping inside the tubular frame.

The shopping basket is huge – it is significantly bigger than the original Oyster, with a special mesh pocket at the front to store your raincover. This leaves a large basket space for your changing bag, your shopping, a picnic – whatever you might need to carry. Access is easy from the rear or the front, and the high sides mean nothing will escape.



Next up are the wheels. The BabyStyle Oyster 2 has 25cm rear wheels, and 18cm front wheels, with the same high shine finish as the chassis. You can buy rear air tyres as an added extra if you tend to come across a lot of rougher terrain, but for everyday use the BabyStyle Oyster 2 wheels are just fine. There is suspension to take away the shock of any bumps and jolts, and the push is smooth and lightweight. The wheels are all quick release and can be removed with the push of a button. The front wheels can be locked by simply pressing a button above the wheels hub.

The brake is located in the centre of the rear axle, and is a straight forward flip lever – flip up to release the brake, and push down to engage. Easy, and large enough for most feet.

BabyStyle Oyster 2 Review: Seat

The ability to have the seat unit parent or world facing is a great option that many parents look for these days. The seat itself is generous in size – 32 cm across and 41cm from seat to

the end of the calf rest, meaning plenty of room for older toddlers. Head room shouldn't be an issue either, with the seat back measuring up at 48cm.

The seat liner is a fantastic added extra that comes with your colour pack – it is made of a lovely padded material which I can only describe as a memory foam – soft, padded and mouldable to your baby's bottom. The calf rest is adjustable too, by simply pressing in 2 buttons on either side. There are 3 positions available, from flat in line with the seat unit to an angle dropped down in line with the footplate, so older children can rest their feet on there.



At first glance, the hood seems small, but once you investigate further there is a hidden zip which allows the hood to extend right out over the seat. It is large and provides more than enough shade for most children. It is also a 'silent hood' meaning no clicking or noise when popping it up or down – this is ideal if your little one is asleep – you don't want to wake a sleeping baby! There is a large viewing window in the rear of the hood too, which is useful for keeping an eye on your tot, especially when you have the seat in forward facing mode.

With a good recline, the BabyStyle Oyster 2 seat unit is suitable from birth. There are 4 recline positions, from lie flat to a very upright position perfect for inquisitive toddlers. Using the recline is simple – just find the lever behind the seat, and lift up, before dropping or lifting the seat into the desired position. Changing the seat from parent to world facing is no hassle either – slide your hands under the seat unit to find 2 buttons. Just squeeze these to release the seat, lift and turn.



The BabyStyle Oyster 2 seat comes with a 5 point safety harness, which is both easy to use and easy to adjust. To fasten your child in, there is a strong safety clip, which I think most little people would struggle to unfasten. To adjust, you simply locate the straps on the rear of the seat, twist and thread through the seat back and material, and then thread back through the required level. There are 2 height positions for the shoulder straps and 2 crotch strap positions too, so there should be no problem with fitting to your child as they grow.

There is a bumper bar included with the BabyStyle Oyster 2, and this is covered in the same soft leather material as the handlebar. There are buttons on the side to move the height of the bar up and down to suit your child, and a gated opening to make getting your little one in and out a bit easier.

BabyStyle also include a raincover, which is generously sized and easy to attach with velcro tabs at the foot.

BabyStyle Oyster 2 Review: Fold

The beauty of the Oyster 2 fold is that there are 2 options – you can remove the seat unit for a more compact fold, or fold in one piece if space is not an issue. To fold with the seat unit on, you need to pull the recline lever and fold the seat back right down on top of the seat itself. Then locate the 2 sliders on the chassis – one will also have a button. Press the button in, and then pull the sliders back towards the handlebar. The pushchair will fold over on itself. There is a frame lock but this will only engage when folded without the seat in place. Even with the seat unit on, the fold is fairly compact. If space is an issue, then

removing the seat unit does mean the frame will fold down flatter and the wheels can be removed for an even smaller fold.

To unfold again, disengage the frame lock, grab the handlebar and swing it back towards you. The frame will open and click into place. If the seat unit is already attached, you then use the recline lever to pull the seat back into the right position.

BabyStyle Oyster 2 Review: Conclusion

It is easy to see why the BabyStyle Oyster has been such a sought after pushchair. The BabyStyle Oyster 2 is an excellent upgrade of the original. There are some great features that make the Oyster 2 stand out – the silent hood, the larger basket and the lie flat seat unit that makes the pushchair suitable from birth.

I think the biggest bonus is the fact that the Oyster 2 can be folded with the seat unit in place. This is sure to be a huge hit with many parents, as it saves a lot of time. This does make for a slightly bulkier fold, but it is still a manageable size, and would fit happily in most car boots.

The colour packs allow you to personalise your pushchair, and come with the cosy liner, the hood and the head hugger for smaller babies all in your choice of colour. They even include a padded apron, which provides a bit of protection and warmth for little legs. If you fancy a change, there is no need for the pram-a-holics amongst us to buy a new pushchair – you can just change the colour pack instead!

The Oyster 2 is an excellent product, everything just works well, and you have a very stylish, very easy to use pushchair that will see you through from day one to the day you no longer need a set of wheels. Go and check it out - we love it!