

CHAPTER 2: SO MANY CHOICES

Plan for Returning to Work

Think about the logistics of coordinating your job, baby care, and other responsibilities. What will be the biggest challenges?

What can you do in advance to ease the process? (Ask coworkers for advice on how they manage working and parenting.)

What are the costs of returning to work? These may include clothing, transportation, child care, convenience foods, and more visits to your baby's caregiver. (Your baby may become sick more often from exposure to ill children in child care.)

Will your income exceed the total costs of working outside the home and make working worthwhile? _____

Can you simplify your lifestyle and lower your cost of living to offset the loss of income? _____

Can you or your partner delay returning to work until your baby is older? _____

Can you or your partner work part-time or job share? _____

Can either of you work from home? _____

How will the parent who works feel about the other parent staying at home and vice versa? _____
