

Dear All,

Thank you very much for offering to help me with adaptive equipment, so I can take a fuller role in my daughter's care. I've done a lot of film and video and worked with props and sets, so I'm very excited to be doing this. I did several months of research before Beatrice arrived. I've tried to organize what I found. It seems to me that more than one device would be helpful. There are several activities I'm managing – feeding, diaper changing, burping, lifting, and transferring. Help in any of these areas would be wonderful.

Carol

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### Lifting and Transferring Beatrice

This wall-mounted electric height adjustable baby change table is the most beautiful product I've found, but it's not made in the states. It's very expensive and it's not even clear it would work here. It would not be returnable (if it malfunctioned, I would need to find a solution). I emailed a lot. One company in England might be willing to ship it (and shipping costs might run \$1,000). There's still the issue of transferring.

#### [Electric Height Adjustable Baby Changing Tables](#)

This is an American model. It doesn't go low enough. If I bought it, I could not return it. It's \$2,865.

#### [Pressalit Care Freestanding Height Adjusting Changing Table](#)

I did a lot of research into comparable products that I could afford. What surprised me is that there is no lift product that will raise a 10-20 pound object from floor to waist high. (I think such a product would be helpful for many people, including those in wheelchairs.) My search became comical. The best is probably the dog grooming table. I bought one, so I have a "scissor lift" at home, but I haven't yet modified the table top for Beatrice (rails and a cut out extension?). I think it can be paired with what's called a "baby lifter," but I haven't been able to find much information about this on the web. Perhaps something could be designed that did multiple functions.

#### [Accordion Lift Electric Grooming Table](#)

<http://www.remap-internet.org.uk/remapedia/tiki-index.php?page=Baby+lifter> - bad link

A 'mini' forklift truck was constructed with a 'C' frame for a base and a vertical pillar that contained a shaft/guides on which the lifting frame moved. A winding drum driven by a windscreen wiper motor provided the motive effort and the power was provided by a re-chargeable battery. A suitable container was constructed on the lifting frame to hold the baby and the unit was mounted on casters to enable it to be moved around the house. The height of lift can be adjusted from floor level to one meter.

#### [Baby Lifter](#)

[Heavy Light C Century Stand / Boom / Wheel Kit](#)

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So the above devices coupled together might work. But, I'm concerned about doing it on my own. I looked into a lot of other products and areas. I got into "heavy lifting" and spoke to a lot of people who worked in the construction business.

This Wesco seemed possible, but it's actually a very large, bulky and heavy item.

[Wesco - Manual and Electric Office Lifts](#)  
[GoLift Model 5 Portable Battery Powered Lift](#)

The Hoyer lifts are used for patient transfer. They don't make an infant model. They're expensive and bulky. They might help solve the lift and transfer, but don't seem quite right.

[Advance Portable Hoyer Patient Lift Electric Solo HighBack Sling](#)

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I did a lot of searching on the web to find parents who had similar issues. Here are some links. I have pages and pages of this kind of material. None of them fully panned out. Here are also some more adaptive devices that I bought.

<http://atnet.org/success-stories/Larry.php> - bad link  
[How to Safely Move Your Child: Lift System Options](#)  
[Disability Related Products/Services - Medical Supplies, Assistive Products](#)  
[Funding Resources for Special Needs & Adaptive Equipment](#)  
[Choices in Scooter and Wheelchair Lifts](#)  
[Equipment for parents with disabilities](#)  
[Disabled Pregnancy and Parenting Resources](#)  
[Avenue to independence](#)  
[Guided advice about daily living](#)  
[Baby Bottle Holder](#)  
[Platform Swing](#)  
[Isobel Trolley](#)  
[Friday Favourite – Snugglebundl](#)  
[Patient Floor Lifts](#)  
[Parents with disabilities](#)

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Feeding Beatrice

Right now, I'm using several devices to feed Beatrice.

I use a straight back stack chair with a McKenzie roll for good support. I use a Brest Friend pillow and a McKenzie neck pillow with rolled up towels to support Beatrice. I bought self-feeding bottles, but haven't been using them. Beatrice will be getting heavier, and I think I will need to find another solution. I'm also using a glider but it has much less back support.

[Hercules Series Heavy Duty, 3" Thickly Padded, Upholstered Stack Chair](#)  
[Original McKenzie Lumbar Roll](#)  
[Original McKenzie Cervical Roll](#)  
[My Brest Friend Pillow](#)

## Madison Swivel Glider

Both babies and mothers, I think, like the proprioceptive sense of holding and being held. I thought a table shaped like the Brest Friend pillow, made of netting or straps, could carry some of the weight and could be adjusted as the baby grew. The Brest Friend pillow could be 3-D printed to better fit the baby and the mother's arms. Perhaps, it could be a shell. Perhaps a swing hanging from the ceiling or placed to the sides of a chair would work better. Many mothers' arms go numb from the process of feeding babies. It seems like there could be a better designed model.

There are other things to think of. Burping and major spit-ups would require something else. Fully changing a baby's clothes on the changing table (those onesies!) is something to consider as well.

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