Remindher

FREE PRINTABLE CHECKLIST

The School Supplies Checklist

Everyday basics, grade-band extras, tech, and the prep tasks around them — so one parent isn't holding the entire back-to-school list alone.

Child / Grade

School start date

Who's shopping for what

🖍️ Everyday Basics (All Grades)

- [ ] Pencils (a full box)
- [ ] Erasers
- [ ] Pens (blue/black)
- [ ] Wide-ruled or college-ruled notebooks
- [ ] Folders with pockets
- [ ] Glue sticks
- [ ] Scissors
- [ ] Ruler
- [ ] Crayons or colored pencils
- [ ] Pencil box or pouch

👜 Bag & Carry Essentials

- [ ] Backpack (right size for grade)
- [ ] Lunch box / bag
- [ ] Reusable water bottle
- [ ] Insulated lunch pack
- [ ] Backpack name tag
- [ ] Homework folder
- [ ] Umbrella / rain cover
- [ ] Extra layer for AC / recess
- [ ] Snack container
- [ ] Cold pack for lunch

🖍️ Preschool – 2nd Grade

- [ ] Jumbo crayons
- [ ] Washable markers
- [ ] Safety / training scissors
- [ ] Washable glue sticks
- [ ] Primary composition notebook
- [ ] Extra full change of clothes
- [ ] Wipes + hand sanitizer
- [ ] Nap mat (if required)
- [ ] Sturdy zip pencil case
- [ ] Labeled water bottle

📐 3rd – 5th Grade

- [ ] Colored pencils
- [ ] Ruler with metric + inches
- [ ] Highlighters
- [ ] Index cards
- [ ] Pencil sharpener with case
- [ ] Subject folders (color-coded)
- [ ] Reading log notebook
- [ ] Sticky notes
- [ ] Protractor
- [ ] Whiteboard markers

🗂️ Middle & High School

- [ ] 1" and 1.5" binders
- [ ] Binder dividers by subject
- [ ] Graphing / scientific calculator
- [ ] Planner or agenda
- [ ] USB drive
- [ ] Sticky notes + tabs
- [ ] Mechanical pencils + lead
- [ ] 3-hole punched paper
- [ ] Highlighters (multi-color)
- [ ] Combination lock (gym/locker)

🔦 Tech & Electronics

- [ ] Laptop or tablet (if required)
- [ ] Charger + spare cable
- [ ] Headphones or earbuds
- [ ] Protective sleeve / case
- [ ] Wireless mouse (if needed)
- [ ] Screen wipes
- [ ] Portable charger
- [ ] Stylus (if applicable)
- [ ] Case for school-issued device
- [ ] Labeled charging cord

🩹 Health & Comfort

- [ ] Hand sanitizer
- [ ] Travel tissues
- [ ] Reusable water bottle
- [ ] Allergy / medical info card
- [ ] Inhaler or EpiPen (if prescribed)
- [ ] Spare mask (if required)
- [ ] Small snack for after school
- [ ] Lip balm / sunscreen
- [ ] Emergency contact card
- [ ] Comfort item for little ones

🏷️ Labeling & Home Prep

- [ ] Name labels on every item
- [ ] School portal login saved
- [ ] First-day outfit picked out
- [ ] Bus stop / pickup plan confirmed
- [ ] Immunization records up to date
- [ ] Signed school forms returned
- [ ] Class supply list double-checked
- [ ] School calendar synced to family calendar
- [ ] Homework / study spot set up
- [ ] Backpack packed the night before

🗓️ Before the First Day

- [ ] Split the shopping list — one parent takes stationery, one takes clothing/gear
- [ ] Confirm the exact list from each teacher before buying (avoid duplicates)
- [ ] Buy a size up on backpacks/lunch bags — they last two years, not one
- [ ] Label everything before the first day, not after something goes missing
- [ ] Add school events + early-dismissal days to the shared family calendar
- [ ] Set a recurring reminder to restock consumables (glue, pencils) mid-year
- [ ] Take a first-day photo before the morning rush starts
- [ ] Confirm who's doing school pickup/drop-off for the first week

The school-supplies mental load: the list itself is easy — remembering it, sizing it to each kid, and doing the shopping trip is what falls on one person. Split the categories above by owner, not just by task.

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