



Outfit a New 12U or 14U Player for Softball

Basic equipment needed:

- 1) **11.75" – 12.5" Fielding glove maximum.** Glove size is noted on inside of glove. These divisions plays with a 12" softball so the glove needs to be able to fit around the ball. Try to get a glove that is leather not pigskin. Buy a glove that fits, not one that is big to grow into. Keeping a ball in her glove will help the glove keep its shape and not become a flat glove while it is stored in her equipment bag.
- 2) **Batters helmet with a NOCSAE approved faceguard.** Both the helmet and facemask need to a NOCSAE stamp on them to be sure the helmet and faceguard are safe enough to protect a player. The helmet should be easy to get on and off with the facemask and fit snugly on your daughter's head. It should not wobble on their head.
- 3) **Softball or soccer molded cleats must be worn for the 12U division.** Make sure any cleats fit.
- 4) **For the 14U division only, players can wear either molded or metal softball or soccer cleats.**
- 5) **For the 12U and 14U divisions, bat lengths may be anywhere from 29-34" long depending on your daughter's height.** Cost of the bats should be in the \$75-\$150. As you gain more experience in softball, you can purchase a composite bat costing \$250 or higher.
- 6) **Fielders masks are mandatory for the 12u and 14U division.** Try to find a Schutt or Rip it steel fielders mask rather than a plastic mask for visibility and comfort.
- 7) **Batpacks or wheeled bags** are needed to carry their equipment.

Recommended Optional equipment:

- 1) Batting gloves. Make sure to try them on to make sure they fit your daughter's hand with no wrinkles in the palm and the tips of the gloves are close to the end of your fingers.
- 2) Sliding shorts or compression shorts.
- 3) Sliding knee pads.

ALWAYS keep in mind that the equipment should fit her now and not too big for her. We want her to enjoy playing softball.