

## **IS 18800:2023 – Stainless Steel Feeding Bottle for Infants – Specification**

Feeding bottles for infants, also commonly known as **baby bottles** or **nursing bottles**, are specially designed bottles that allow babies to drink **milk** or **formula** safely and comfortably. Safety of feeding bottles is of paramount importance because they come into direct contact with babies, who are highly vulnerable to harmful substances and choking hazard.

IS 18800:2023 lays out the specification for feeding bottles made of **stainless steel**. It addresses the **safety** concerns by outlining the materials that can be used in each component, including body, teat (nipple), locking ring and protective cover. It prescribes a comprehensive set of chemical tests to check the **leaching of heavy metals** into baby food or contamination of food by release of harmful chemicals like **carcinogens**. Additionally, it also specifies suitable mechanical tests like leakage test, drop test, tear resistance and deformation resistance tests to ensure that bottles are structurally **strong** and **do not break or dent** under day-to-day usage. Further, pigments are tested for permanency and teats are tested for effects of high-pressure steam to ensure **durability** of the bottles through prolonged cycles of **sterilization and cleaning**. The standard also includes guidance for instructions for use to ensure that the parents use the bottles in a safe and **hygienic** manner.

It is mandatory for all infant feeding bottles manufactured, imported or sold in India to comply with IS 18800 for protection of newborns from the adverse effects of chemical exposure. Compliance to IS 18800 can be ensured while purchasing the bottles by looking for the BIS Standard Mark (**ISI Mark**) on the bottles. Presence of the ISI Mark on a bottle is an indicator that the bottle is safe, hygienic and durable for baby use.