



**RED BIRD MISSION CHRISTMAS “SHOEBOXES”** Plastic Storage Container Source and Suggestions for Purchasing Containers.

The Preferred containers are LATCHING 6.0 to 7.0 QT Latching Containers.

**SOURCE:** Clear plastic storage containers to be used for the Christmas “shoebox” program provide needed additional dry storage for families who receive one of the shoeboxes. Clear plastic storage containers of just the right size to hold everything requested are available from Wal-Mart by ordering online. These containers have hinged lids and can be purchased in cases through retailers like Walmart, Target and Home Depot. While the containers are available in clear or blue, the clear containers are best – they show everything inside and are generally less expensive.

One link for the description and ordering information for the clear plastic containers is: <https://www.walmart.com/ip/Sterilite-1-75-Gallon-Plastic-Storage-Box-Stadium-Blue-14-Count/44785808>.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR PURCHASING CONTAINERS** The only way to purchase the recommended storage containers from Wal-Mart is in case lots of 14 each. So as to not place a burden on those wishing to participate, in some churches one or more families have agreed to purchase all the necessary containers at their expense as their support for the project. In other situations the church has been the purchaser and then either distributes the containers free or at cost for those wishing to participate. **COSTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FILLING ‘SHOEBOXES’** Even when the cost of the storage container is included, filling a ‘shoebox’ is between \$20 and \$25 per box (depending on where items are purchased). It is suggested that many if not all of the items requested for a shoebox can be purchased from one of the local ‘Dollar’ stores. To be sure everything fits in the containers it is suggested that flat bottles and small cans be purchased rather than the standard tall round bottle or large round cans. Good luck and Blessings to you for your participation in this most worthy cause.

Box cost have increased in recent years, but it is important to pack in a quality box so that the container arrives intact after packing and shipping.



The below example is the Sterilite 1.75 Gallon (7 Qt) Plastic Storage Box. These stack easily (remember we are collecting and delivering thousands of these). You will need a box in the range of 6.0 Qt to 7.0 Qt (preferred) to easily fit all the suggested goods into a box.

The dimensions noted may also help you find other boxes that may work.

