

EQUIPMENT & APPAREL

What you need:

- **In House:** athletic pants (no shorts), any color; Flying **Gobblers Travel:** black softball (or baseball) pants with tall red socks
- plastic cleats (sneakers ok for Rookies In-house)
- softball glove
- water bottle

Answers to Common Equipment Questions:

- **Glove:**
 - Ask around first. Lots of hand me downs with good miles left in them.
 - **Big Dreamers:** 10-inch youth
 - Try to avoid the gloves with the plastic shell covering as they are often more stiff and non-conforming. The leather 10" gloves are still nice and cheap at this age.
 - **Rookies:** 11-11.5 inch for most kids
 - **Minors:** same as Rookies
 - **Majors+:** 12 inch
 - These start to be a bit more spendy. Try them on first!
 - Pay attention to "youth" vs "adult".
- **Softball (or baseball) pants with tall socks**
 - *Note: this is optional for in house, but required for travel*
 - Any gray or black softball pants. (Black for travel)
- **Fielder's mask**
 - Some kids prefer a plastic mask which is great for younger ages since they are lighter. As the balls start getting hit and thrown a little harder, we like the metal ones. The metal ones also leave larger gaps for viewing because of the stronger bars.
 - Size is not an issue here. With the adjustable straps, nearly all of the AYF kids from Rookies to Majors fit into the same "youth mask" size.
- **Bat**
 - **Big Dreamers:** any T-ball bat, nothing bigger than 27 in. length (At this age the bats need to be light so they can swing them)
 - **Rookies:** most will use 27-28" bats - some are big enough for 29"
 - **Minors:** most will use 29-30" - some are big enough for 31" - drop weight of -12
 - **Majors:** most will use 30-31" - drop of -10 or -11.
 - *Note: If you think your daughter needs less weight than I would recommend a shorter bat.*
- **Batting helmet** with face shield
 - *Note: Travel only - Some tournaments require helmets to have facemasks. AYF owns several, so if you already have a helmet w/o a mask, you can borrow one. If you are buying a new one soon, get one with a shield.*