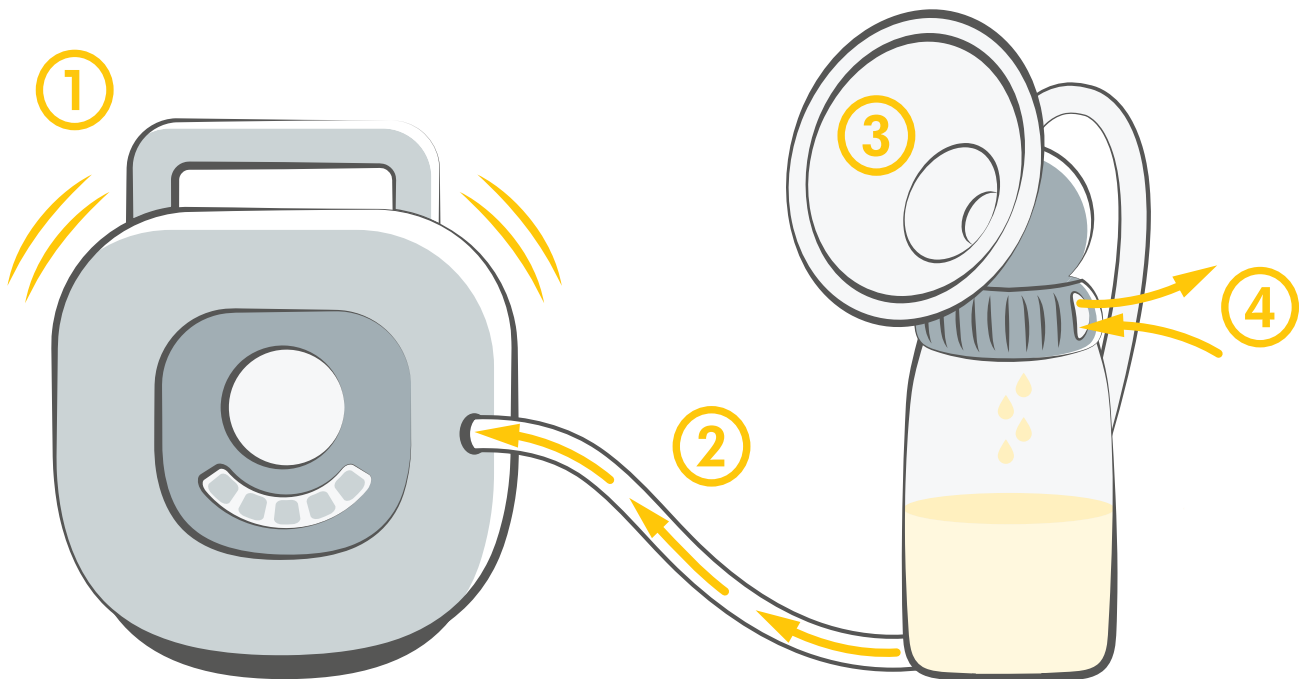


The Truth About Open & Closed Breast Pump Systems

How Breast Pumps Work – Open Systems

Breast pumps create a vacuum to remove breast milk. To do that, air must enter and exit the bottle – making it an open system!



- 1 Breast pump creates vacuum to create suction
- 2 Suction moves through tubing
- 3 Suction extracts milk from the breast
- 4 Air enters and exits the bottle to make room for milk

What is a closed system?

Some breast pumps in the market claim to have a “closed” systems, but what they mean is they are designed with a barrier to prevent breast milk from entering tubing or breast pump... and barriers don't necessarily mean the breast pump is safer or performs better. **Medela calls this barrier Overflow Protection**



Did you know?

Not all barriers are created equal – some designs on the market may actually compromise the performance of the breast pump, which could have a negative impact on your milk supply.

What is Overflow Protection?

All Medela double-electric breast pumps are designed with a barrier, or Overflow Protection to block milk from entering the breast pump.

Where is Overflow Protection?

That depends on what breast pump you have. With Medela, Overflow Protection is located either at the breast pump OR at the kit, depending on the pump design. Every Medela breast pump comes with a kit that has been designed specifically for that breast pump to provide the best performance.

At the breast pump



Symphony®

At the kit



Freestyle®

OR



Pump In Style Advanced®



Sonata®



Did you know?

The location of Medela's Overflow Protection barrier is different by model to optimize breast pump performance, safety, and hygiene.

Cleaning Counts

Just because a breast pump has a barrier does not mean it's more hygienic! Some pump kits on the market hide milk residue on the barrier, which can allow bacteria and microorganisms to grow if the pump parts are not properly cleaned. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for use or CDC Guidelines for cleaning your breast pump for best results.

Learn more at [MedelaDifference.com](https://www.MedelaDifference.com)