

I'm not a bot































Earn a \$1 Bonus on your first purchase Dress Your Kids for Every OccasionGet ready for back-to-school with these stylish and comfortable kids clothing. From adorable outfits for the first day of school to everyday essentials, you can get it all from this collection. Back-to-School Essentials: • Layering pieces: Cardigans, hoodies and light jackets for unpredictable weather. • Bottoms: Jeans, chinos or dress pants for a polished look. • Tops: Polo shirts, button-down shirts or graphic tees for a variety of styles. • Shoes: Comfortable sneakers or loafers for everyday wear.Cardigans:Layer up in style with these cozy cardigans. Perfect for chilly mornings or as a stylish addition to any outfit. Find the perfect cardigan for your little one, from classic button-downs to trendy zip-ups.Joggers: Comfort meets style with these versatile joggers. Ideal for playtime, school or lounging at home. Choose from a variety of colors and patterns to match any outfit.Sneakers: Complete their look with our trendy sneakers. Built for comfort and durability, perfect for active kids. Find the perfect pair for school days, playdates or weekend adventures.Swimwear: Make a splash this summer with these stylish swimsuits. Designed for fun in the sun, these swimsuits offer comfort and protection. Perfect for beach days and pool parties.Activewear: Keep up with your energetic kids with these comfortable and stylish activewear. Perfect for sports, playtime or just lounging around.Pajamas: Ensure sweet dreams with our cozy pajamas. Made from soft, breathable fabrics, these pajamas offer comfort all night long.With the wide range of stylish and comfortable kids' clothing, you'll find everything you need to dress your little ones for any occasion.FAQs-Q: How do I know what size to buy for my child?A: We provide a detailed size chart on the website to help you find the perfect fit for your child.Q: Are the clothes machine washable?A: Yes, all the kids' clothes are machine washable for your convenience. New In E24.99 RRP\$39.99 New In E24.99 RRP\$39.99 New In E14.99 RRP\$29.99 New In E39.99 RRP\$69.99 New In E26.99 RRP\$49.99 Clear Out E39.99 RRP\$69.99 Back In Stock E24.99 RRP\$53.99 Price Drop E12.99 RRP\$19.99 New In E39.99 RRP\$69.99 Back In Stock E14.99 RRP\$29.99 Clear Out E27.99 RRP\$84.99 Clear Out E12.99 RRP\$29.99 New In E19.99 RRP\$59.99 Price Drop E12.99 RRP\$19.99 New In E14.99 RRP\$29.99 Clear Out E14.99 RRP\$34.99 Clear Out E14.99 RRP\$54.99 Half Price or Less E19.99 RRP\$49.99 Half Price or Less E22.99 RRP\$51.99 Clear Out E16.99 RRP\$39.99 Price Drop E29.99 RRP\$79.99 Price Drop E29.99 RRP\$79.99 Half Price or Less E24.99 RRP\$51.99 Clear Out E9.99 RRP\$31.99 Clear Out E16.99 RRP\$34.99 Clear Out E24.99 RRP\$39.99 Clear Out E29.99 RRP\$59.99 Clear Out E21.99 RRP\$54.99 E5.99 RRP\$9.99 Clear Out E5.99 RRP\$17.99 E12.99 Half Price or Less E19.99 RRP\$69.99 Back In Stock E14.99 RRP\$29.99 Price Drop E12.99 RRP\$39.99 New In E29.99 RRP\$55.99 New In E24.99 RRP\$52.99 New In E19.99 RRP\$34.99 Half Price or Less E17.99 RRP\$59.99 Clear Out E12.99 RRP\$29.99 E12.99 RRP\$22.99 Half Price or Less E19.99 RRP\$49.99 Clear Out E19.99 RRP\$59.99 Clear Out E19.99 RRP\$59.99 New In E24.99 RRP\$55.99 New In E69.99 RRP\$135.99 Clear Out E4.99 Clear Out E26.99 RRP\$84.99 Clear Out E14.99 RRP\$44.99 Clear Out E12.99 RRP\$29.99 Clear Out E29.99 RRP\$119.99 E7.99 Half Price or Less E19.99 RRP\$59.99 New In E29.99 RRP\$55.99 Half Price or Less E14.99 RRP\$34.99 Price Drop E24.99 RRP\$44.99 Clear Out E27.99 RRP\$94.99 Clear Out E12.99 RRP\$31.99 Half Price or Less E19.99 RRP\$49.99 New In E32.99 RRP\$60.99 New In E19.99 RRP\$29.99 Half Price or Less E19.99 RRP\$49.99 Clear Out E14.99 RRP\$35.99 Clear Out E11.99 RRP\$39.99 Clear Out E11.99 RRP\$39.99 Clear Out E3.99 RRP\$41.99 Clear Out E19.99 RRP\$74.99 Half Price or Less E19.99 RRP\$39.99 Price Drop E19.99 RRP\$39.99 Clear Out E9.99 RRP\$19.99 Clear Out E14.99 RRP\$39.99 New In E32.99 RRP\$60.99 Clear Out E17.99 RRP\$64.99 Half Price or Less E24.99 RRP\$64.99 E12.99 E6.99 RRP\$11.99 Clear Out E17.99 RRP\$39.99 Back In Stock E12.99 RRP\$24.99 E19.99 Buy The Children's Place Save money when you buy The Children's Place gift cards. Receive up to 5.00% cash back on The Children's Place gift cards from MyGiftCardsPlus. Order gift cards online securely. Gift cards never expire. About The Children's Place The Children's Place and Gymboree are a family of brands that focus on outfitting kids from head to toe! Since opening in 1969, The Children's Place has grown to become America's largest pure-play kids' clothing company offering a wide assortment of apparel, shoes and accessories in newborn sizes and up to size 18. From cute baby clothes to trending outfits for big kids, it's easy to find everything kids want to wear for school or play all at affordable prices. For complete bow-toe looks, the iconic Gymboree brand delivers colorful, playful and quality clothing collections that celebrate childhood and help families look their best for any occasion. The Children's Place relaunched Gymboree online and in over 200 select shop-in-shop locations across the US and Canada. Find the latest styles for every kid and every occasion, in stores or online with free shipping every day at [childrensplace.com](http://childrensplace.com) and [gymboree.com](http://gymboree.com). The Children's Place Gift Cards are subject to Terms and Conditions. Terms and Conditions Hide Terms & Conditions Use of this card constitutes acceptance of the following terms and conditions: Can be used for purchases of merchandise at THE CHILDREN'S PLACE stores, outlets or online at [childrensplace.com](http://childrensplace.com). Redeemable in US only. Not redeemable for cash unless required by law and cannot be replaced if lost, stolen or used without your permission. Return of merchandise purchased with this card is subject to store return policy. For balance inquiries, call 1-800-501-3232 or visit us at [childrensplace.com/giftcardbalance](http://childrensplace.com/giftcardbalance). Select The Children's Place Gift Card Value Digital - FAST Digital (eGift) - Your electronic gift card will be delivered to your email. Digital (eGift) - Your electronic gift card will be delivered to your email. \*Your SB points will be credited to your Swagbucks account once the gift card purchase is approved - typically within two business days. Your electronic gift cards will then be delivered to your email address. \*Your SB points will be credited to your Swagbucks account once the gift card purchase is approved - typically within two business days. Your physical gift cards will then be shipped to your billing address. \*Your SB points will be credited to your Swagbucks account once the gift card purchase is approved - typically within two business days. Your eGifts will then be delivered to your inbox and physical cards will be shipped to your billing address. FAQs for The Children's Place: 2 How much cash back will I earn on my The Children's Place gift card? 4.00% on \$25 gift cards.4.50% on \$50 gift cards.5.00% on \$100, and \$250 gift cards. 3 What The Children's Place gift cards can I buy? \$25 The Children's Place gift card\$50 The Children's Place gift card\$100 The Children's Place gift card\$250 The Children's Place gift card Copyright © 2025 Prodege, LLC \*Cash back is paid in the form of SB points good for popular gift cards or PayPal cash. Trademarks, including, "Swagbucks", "Swag Codes", "Swagstakes", "SwagButton", "SwagUp", "SB" and the Swagbucks logo are the property of Prodege, LLC; all rights reserved. Other trademarks appearing on this site are property of their respective owners, which do not endorse and are not affiliated with Swagbucks or its promotions. Address: 915 Secaucus Road Secaucus, New Jersey 07094 U.S.A. Telephone: (201) 558-2400 Fax: (201) 558-2841 Public Company Incorporated: 1969 Employees: 3,700 Sales: \$421.5 million (2000) Stock Exchanges: NASDAQ Ticker Symbol: PLCE NAIC: 44813 Children's and Infants' Clothing Stores At The Children's Place, we are committed to creating a true lifestyle brand for kids. We are proud of what we have achieved and very excited about our future. Our success is due to our steadfast commitment to our core values: Quality that our customers have come to expect. Service on our customers' terms; style that fits our customers' needs; prices that won't strain our customers' budgets. 1969: First Children's Place store opened. 1962: Founders sell chain to Federated Department Stores. 1988: Money-losing chain sold to investor group led by Dabah family. 1993: Firm restructured to handle debt. 1997: Company sells shares to public. Company History: The Children's Place Retail Stores Inc. operates a chain of children's clothing stores across most of the United States. Its products are designed for children aged newborn to 12. It trades under its own 'The Children's Place' brand name. In the competitive children's retail market, The Children's Place offers prices significantly lower than principal brand name competitors. Most of the chain's stores are in malls, with a mix of upscale and more down-market sites. A pair of entrepreneurs started the company on the east coast, and it gradually spread west and south. By the year 2000 The Children's Place had close to 400 stores in 42 states, with plans to expand rapidly. In 1981, the founders sold it to the retail empire of Federated Department Stores. The company is now publicly owned, with about a third of the stock in the hands of CEO Ezra Dabah and his family. An Entrepreneurial Venture in the 1970s The first Children's Place store was opened by two 1965 graduates of Harvard Business School, David Pulver and Clinton Clark. Pulver and Clark both agreed that they did not want to go to work for big corporations, but it took them several years to decide what kind of business they would like to run. Some of the options they first considered were opening auto repair shops or marketing special meltable crayons. Eventually they focused on opening a children's department store. Both men had children and thought they knew something of what children wanted, so they decided to put this expertise to work. Pulver and Clark opened The Children's Place in Hartford, Connecticut, in 1969. The store sold toys as well as clothing and accessories, a product mix described by Clark in a February 1, 1982 profile in Forbes as 'everything for everyone.' This strategy was not particularly successful; many lines were unprofitable. Pulver and Clark spent three years adjusting the product mix and learning how to run the business before The Children's Place made money. They chose to focus on medium-priced children's sportswear, along with some name-brand kids' clothing. Pulver and Clark expanded, opening more stores in the east. After ten years, The Children's Place had blossomed into a chain of 34 stores. Revenues were growing at close to 50 percent annually, and profits were growing by a third. The Children's Place had little direct competition at first. The stores were primarily located in malls. Consumers could buy children's clothing at mall department stores such as J.C. Penney and Sears, but The Children's Place was generally the only small mall shop selling children's wear exclusively. The chain galloped along, nearly doubling to 65 stores by 1981. Sales were over \$50 million. Pulver and Clark took the chain public in 1981, and were apparently besieged by merger offers. The two founders were willing to sell the company, but they did not want to stay on and run it under a corporate boss. In 1982, they sold The Children's Place to Federated Department Stores. Federated was a large chain store conglomerate with sales of around \$6 billion. It ran such well-known department stores such as Bloomingdale's and I. Magnin. Pulver and Clark's deal with Federated called for them to train replacements to run The Children's Place, so their association with the retail chain ended soon after the sale. Ups and Downs in the 1980s The chain's growth continued under new ownership. From 1982 to 1986, The Children's Place added on average 20 stores a year, spreading mostly through malls across the northeast and midwest. But under Federated, the chain was no longer as profitable as it had been in its early years. The store sold a mix of brand-name clothes and some private label, but its sales were hurt by discounters offering comparable goods at cheaper prices. A new chain, Kids 'R' Us, an offshoot of the mass-market toy store chain Toys 'R' Us, also provided new competition. In 1985, The Children's Place lost money, and then stayed in the red for 1986 and 1987. Federated had made some changes to the chain, remodeling a few stores after a new prototype in 1984, and then progressively remodeling others for the more updated look. The parent company built a new warehouse to handle The Children's Place goods, and hired new staff, anticipating growing the chain to 300 stores by 1990. However, The Children's Place seemed to lose its uniqueness. It lost out to discounters, but it was not as upscale as some of its department store competitors. It lacked guidance from Federated, and this was made worse in 1988, when the Federated conglomerate was bought by a Canadian company, Campeau Corp. Already a small piece of a big firm, The Children's Place was even farther from the center of operations after the sale of Federated. The Children's Place lost \$12 million in 1988, and Campeau decided to sell it. It went on the block along with a sister chain it had started in 1986, The Accessory Place. This was another mall-based chain, selling accessories to girls and young women. By 1988, The Children's Place had grown to 161 stores. Campeau hoped to get bids of \$75 million for the chain, in tandem with The Accessory Place, but no buyers were willing to shell out that much. Eventually the two chains together went for \$28 million. The purchaser was an investor group led by Morris Dabah, the head of the apparel corporation Gitano Group. Dabah's investor group bought the two chains from Federated, then sold The Accessory Place the next day for \$6 million. The chief executive position at The Children's Place was then taken over by Ezra Dabah, who was also president of E.J. Gitano. Gitano Group's children's division. He had a solid background in children's merchandising, extensive contacts with manufacturers, and was a father of five himself. Under Ezra Dabah in the 1990s Ezra Dabah was enthusiastic about running The Children's Place. He knew the company had not been well managed under Federated, but he was sure the chain had great potential. It was still the only national children's specialty chain to be found principally in malls. Its main competitor, Kids 'R' Us, was primarily in strip malls or the kind of edge-of-town retail areas where big box stores were found. The mall locale of The Children's Place chain gave it a unique identity. And Dabah believed that children's apparel was a market poised for immense growth. Dabah quickly initiated plans to get the chain back on its feet. He opened two new prototype stores, planning to build other new ones on the same model. These had a bright, open floor plan with walls accented by floral wallpaper; a toddler play area; revamped fitting rooms, including one for handicapped children; video monitors; and colorful posters and props. Unprofitable stores were shut down, layers of management cut, and the merchandise mix was reworked. Dabah preferred to go with an upscale image. Ninety percent of the clothing was branded, with labels like Gloria Vanderbilt, Bugle Boy, OshKosh, and Gitano. By late 1999, Dabah was able to claim that The Children's Place would turn a profit that year. Expenses were down, and inventory was turning over faster. Dabah also announced that the chain would continue to grow. In an article in WWD for September 18, 1989, Dabah revealed plans to add 20 to 30 stores in 1990, and eventually bring the chain up to 400 to 500 stores. Direct competitors were considered the department stores that frequently anchored malls, such as J.C. Penney and Macy's. Price was not to be the main draw at The Children's Place. The big come-on, Dabah declared to WWD, 'will be the merchandise itself.' Nevertheless, The Children's Place remained financially troubled. Between 1990 and 1992, the company lost \$60 million. Store closings outnumbered openings, bringing the total number in the chain to only 90. The investor group that had bought the firm filed for Chapter 11 in November 1993, along with Ezra Dabah and three other members of his family. The Dabah's Gitano Group was not doing well, either. It filed for bankruptcy in 1994. The Children's Place had trouble meeting its payments, and finally agreed in 1993 to an out-of-court settlement restructuring its debts. This allowed the firm to remain in business. Three years later, the company was still not financially sound, and it brought in two outside firms to help it handle its debt. These were Saunders Karp & Megrue (SKM), which took a stake of over 30 percent in The Children's Place, and Nomura Holding America, which took a smaller stake of around nine percent. The Dabah family continued to hold the remaining stock. By 1997, the company had changed its marketing thrust somewhat. Instead of offering high-priced brand-name merchandise, it sold good quality but value-priced children's clothing under its own brand name, Children's Place. This gave it more of a competitive edge against the many retailers it was up against in the children's market. These newcomers included Gap Kids, Baby Gap, and Old Navy, all offshoots of The Gap. Limited Too, a children's version of the long-standing mall-based The Limited chain; and Gymboree, a nationwide chain of children's clothing stores. The Children's Place seemed to lose its uniqueness. It lost out to discounters, but it was not as upscale as some of its department store competitors. It lacked guidance from Federated, and this was made worse in 1988, when the Federated conglomerate was bought by a Canadian company, Campeau Corp. Already a small piece of a big firm, The Children's Place was even farther from the center of operations after the sale of Federated. The Children's Place lost \$12 million in 1988, and Campeau decided to sell it. It went on the block along with a sister chain it had started in 1986, The Accessory Place. This was another mall-based chain, selling accessories to girls and young women. By 1988, The Children's Place had grown to 161 stores. Campeau hoped to get bids of \$75 million for the chain, in tandem with The Accessory Place, but no buyers were willing to shell out that much. Eventually the two chains together went for \$28 million. The purchaser was an investor group led by Morris Dabah, the head of the apparel corporation Gitano Group. Dabah's investor group bought the two chains from Federated, then sold The Accessory Place the next day for \$6 million. The chief executive position at The Children's Place was then taken over by Ezra Dabah, who was also president of E.J. Gitano. Gitano Group's children's division. He had a solid background in children's merchandising, extensive contacts with manufacturers, and was a father of five himself. Under Ezra Dabah in the 1990s Ezra Dabah was enthusiastic about running The Children's Place. He knew the company had not been well managed under Federated, but he was sure the chain had great potential. It was still the only national children's specialty chain to be found principally in malls. Its main competitor, Kids 'R' Us, was primarily in strip malls or the kind of edge-of-town retail areas where big box stores were found. The mall locale of The Children's Place chain gave it a unique identity. And Dabah believed that children's apparel was a market poised for immense growth. Dabah quickly initiated plans to get the chain back on its feet. He opened two new prototype stores, planning to build other new ones on the same model. These had a bright, open floor plan with walls accented by floral wallpaper; a toddler play area; revamped fitting rooms, including one for handicapped children; video monitors; and colorful posters and props. Unprofitable stores were shut down, layers of management cut, and the merchandise mix was reworked. Dabah preferred to go with an upscale image. Ninety percent of the clothing was branded, with labels like Gloria Vanderbilt, Bugle Boy, OshKosh, and Gitano. By late 1999, Dabah was able to claim that The Children's Place would turn a profit that year. Expenses were down, and inventory was turning over faster. Dabah also announced that the chain would continue to grow. In an article in WWD for September 18, 1989, Dabah revealed plans to add 20 to 30 stores in 1990, and eventually bring the chain up to 400 to 500 stores. Direct competitors were considered the department stores that frequently anchored malls, such as J.C. Penney and Macy's. Price was not to be the main draw at The Children's Place. The big come-on, Dabah declared to WWD, 'will be the merchandise itself.' Nevertheless, The Children's Place remained financially troubled. Between 1990 and 1992, the company lost \$60 million. Store closings outnumbered openings, bringing the total number in the chain to only 90. The investor group that had bought the firm filed for Chapter 11 in November 1993, along with Ezra Dabah and three other members of his family. The Dabah's Gitano Group was not doing well, either. It filed for bankruptcy in 1994. The Children's Place had trouble meeting its payments, and finally agreed in 1993 to an out-of-court settlement restructuring its debts. This allowed the firm to remain in business. Three years later, the company was still not financially sound, and it brought in two outside firms to help it handle its debt. These were Saunders Karp & Megrue (SKM), which took a stake of over 30 percent in The Children's Place, and Nomura Holding America, which took a smaller stake of around nine percent. The Dabah family continued to hold the remaining stock. By 1997, the company had changed its marketing thrust somewhat. Instead of offering high-priced brand-name merchandise, it sold good quality but value-priced children's clothing under its own brand name, Children's Place. This gave it more of a competitive edge against the many retailers it was up against in the children's market. These newcomers included Gap Kids, Baby Gap, and Old Navy, all offshoots of The Gap. Limited Too, a children's version of the long-standing mall-based The Limited chain; and Gymboree, a nationwide chain of children's clothing stores. The Children's Place seemed to lose its uniqueness. It lost out to discounters, but it was not as upscale as some of its department store competitors. It lacked guidance from Federated, and this was made worse in 1988, when the Federated conglomerate was bought by a Canadian company, Campeau Corp. Already a small piece of a big firm, The Children's Place was even farther from the center of operations after the sale of Federated. The Children's Place lost \$12 million in 1988, and Campeau decided to sell it. It went on the block along with a sister chain it had started in 1986, The Accessory Place. This was another mall-based chain, selling accessories to girls and young women. By 1988, The Children's Place had grown to 161 stores. Campeau hoped to get bids of \$75 million for the chain, in tandem with The Accessory Place, but no buyers were willing to shell out that much. Eventually the two chains together went for \$28 million. The purchaser was an investor group led by Morris Dabah, the head of the apparel corporation Gitano Group. Dabah's investor group bought the two chains from Federated, then sold The Accessory Place the next day for \$6 million. The chief executive position at The Children's Place was then taken over by Ezra Dabah, who was also president of E.J. Gitano. Gitano Group's children's division. He had a solid background in children's merchandising, extensive contacts with manufacturers, and was a father of five himself. Under Ezra Dabah in the 1990s Ezra Dabah was enthusiastic about running The Children's Place. He knew the company had not been well managed under Federated, but he was sure the chain had great potential. It was still the only national children's specialty chain to be found principally in malls. Its main competitor, Kids 'R' Us, was primarily in strip malls or the kind of edge-of-town retail areas where big box stores were found. The mall locale of The Children's Place chain gave it a unique identity. And Dabah believed that children's apparel was a market poised for immense growth. Dabah quickly initiated plans to get the chain back on its feet. He opened two new prototype stores, planning to build other new ones on the same model. These had a bright, open floor plan with walls accented by floral wallpaper; a toddler play area; revamped fitting rooms, including one for handicapped children; video monitors; and colorful posters and props. Unprofitable stores were shut down, layers of management cut, and the merchandise mix was reworked. Dabah preferred to go with an upscale image. Ninety percent of the clothing was branded, with labels like Gloria Vanderbilt, Bugle Boy, OshKosh, and Gitano. By late 1999, Dabah was able to claim that The Children's Place would turn a profit that year. Expenses were down, and inventory was turning over faster. Dabah also announced that the chain would continue to grow. In an article in WWD for September 18, 1989, Dabah revealed plans to add 20 to 30 stores in 1990, and eventually bring the chain up to 400 to 500 stores. Direct competitors were considered the department stores that frequently anchored malls, such as J.C. Penney and Macy's. Price was not to be the main draw at The Children's Place. The big come-on, Dabah declared to WWD, 'will be the merchandise itself.' Nevertheless, The Children's Place remained financially troubled. Between 1990 and 1992, the company lost \$60 million. Store closings outnumbered openings, bringing the total number in the chain to only 90. The investor group that had bought the firm filed for Chapter 11 in November 1993, along with Ezra Dabah and three other members of his family. The Dabah's Gitano Group was not doing well, either. It filed for bankruptcy in 1994. The Children's Place had trouble meeting its payments, and finally agreed in 1993 to an out-of-court settlement restructuring its debts. This allowed the firm to remain in business. Three years later, the company was still not financially sound, and it brought in two outside firms to help it handle its debt. These were Saunders Karp & Megrue (SKM), which took a stake of over 30 percent in The Children's Place, and Nomura Holding America, which took a smaller stake of around nine percent. The Dabah family continued to hold the remaining stock. By 1997, the company had changed its marketing thrust somewhat. Instead of offering high-priced brand-name merchandise, it sold good quality but value-priced children's clothing under its own brand name, Children's Place. This gave it more of a competitive edge against the many retailers it was up against in the children's market. These newcomers included Gap Kids, Baby Gap, and Old Navy, all offshoots of The Gap. Limited Too, a children's version of the long-standing mall-based The Limited chain; and Gymboree, a nationwide chain of children's clothing stores. The Children's Place seemed to lose its uniqueness. It lost out to discounters, but it was not as upscale as some of its department store competitors. It lacked guidance from Federated, and this was made worse in 1988, when the Federated conglomerate was bought by a Canadian company, Campeau Corp. Already a small piece of a big firm, The Children's Place was even farther from the center of operations after the sale of Federated. The Children's Place lost \$12 million in 1988, and Campeau decided to sell it. It went on the block along with a sister chain it had started in 1986, The Accessory Place. This was another mall-based chain, selling accessories to girls and young women. By 1988, The Children's Place had grown to 161 stores. Campeau hoped to get bids of \$75 million for the chain, in tandem with The Accessory Place, but no buyers were willing to shell out that much. Eventually the two chains together went for \$28 million. The purchaser was an investor group led by Morris Dabah, the head of the apparel corporation Gitano Group. Dabah's investor group bought the two chains from Federated, then sold The Accessory Place the next day for \$6 million. The chief executive position at The Children's Place was then taken over by Ezra Dabah, who was also president of E.J. Gitano. Gitano Group's children's division. He had a solid background in children's merchandising, extensive contacts with manufacturers, and was a father of five himself. Under Ezra Dabah in the 1990s Ezra Dabah was enthusiastic about running The Children's Place. He knew the company had not been well managed under Federated, but he was sure the chain had great potential. It was still the only national children's specialty chain to be found principally in malls. Its main competitor, Kids 'R' Us, was primarily in strip malls or the kind of edge-of-town retail areas where big box stores were found. The mall locale of The Children's Place chain gave it a unique identity. And Dabah believed that children's apparel was a market poised for immense growth. Dabah quickly initiated plans to get the chain back on its feet. He opened two new prototype stores, planning to build other new ones on the same model. These had a bright, open floor plan with walls accented by floral wallpaper; a toddler play area; revamped fitting rooms, including one for handicapped children; video monitors; and colorful posters and props. Unprofitable stores were shut down, layers of management cut, and the merchandise mix was reworked. Dabah preferred to go with an upscale image. Ninety percent of the clothing was branded, with labels like Gloria Vanderbilt, Bugle Boy, OshKosh, and Gitano. By late 1999, Dabah was able to claim that The Children's Place would turn a profit that year. Expenses were down, and inventory was turning over faster. Dabah also announced that the chain would continue to grow. In an article in WWD for September 18, 1989, Dabah revealed plans to add 20 to 30 stores in 1990, and eventually bring the chain up to 400 to 500 stores. Direct competitors were considered the department stores that frequently anchored malls, such as J.C. Penney and Macy's. Price was not to be the main draw at The Children's Place. The big come-on, Dabah declared to WWD, 'will be the merchandise itself.' Nevertheless, The Children's Place remained financially troubled. Between 1990 and 1992, the company lost \$60 million. Store closings outnumbered openings, bringing the total number in the chain to only 90. The investor group that had bought the firm filed for Chapter 11 in November 1993, along with Ezra Dabah and three other members of his family. The Dabah's Gitano Group was not doing well, either. It filed for bankruptcy in 1994. The Children's Place had trouble meeting its payments, and finally agreed in 1993 to an out-of-court settlement restructuring its debts. This allowed the firm to remain in business. Three years later, the company was still not financially sound, and it brought in two outside firms to help it handle its debt. These were Saunders Karp & Megrue (SKM), which took a stake of over 30 percent in The Children's Place, and Nomura Holding America, which took a smaller stake of around nine percent. The Dabah family continued to hold the remaining stock. By 1997, the company had changed its marketing thrust somewhat. Instead of offering high-priced brand-name merchandise, it sold good quality but value-priced children's clothing under its own brand name, Children's Place. This gave it more of a competitive edge against the many retailers it was up against in the children's market. These newcomers included Gap Kids, Baby Gap, and Old Navy, all offshoots of The Gap. Limited Too, a children's version of the long-standing mall-based The Limited chain; and Gymboree, a nationwide chain of children's clothing stores. The Children's Place seemed to lose its uniqueness. It lost out to discounters, but it was not as upscale as some of its department store competitors. It lacked guidance from Federated, and this was made worse in 1988, when the Federated conglomerate was bought by a Canadian company, Campeau Corp. Already a small piece of a big firm, The Children's Place was even farther from the center of operations after the sale of Federated. The Children's Place lost \$12 million in 1988, and Campeau decided to sell it. It went on the block along with a sister chain it had started in 1986, The Accessory Place. This was another mall-based chain, selling accessories to girls and young women. By 1988, The Children's Place had grown to 161 stores. Campeau hoped to get bids of \$75 million for the chain, in tandem with The Accessory Place, but no buyers were willing to shell out that much. Eventually the two chains together went for \$28 million. The purchaser was an investor group led by Morris Dabah, the head of the apparel corporation Gitano Group. Dabah's investor group bought the two chains from Federated, then sold The Accessory Place the next day for \$6 million. The chief executive position at The Children's Place was then taken over by Ezra Dabah, who was also president of E.J. Gitano. Gitano Group's children's division. He had a solid background in children's merchandising, extensive contacts with manufacturers, and was a father of five himself. Under Ezra Dabah in the 1990s Ezra Dabah was enthusiastic about running The Children's Place. He knew the company had not been well managed under Federated, but he was sure the chain had great potential. It was still the only national children's specialty chain to be found principally in malls. Its main competitor, Kids 'R' Us, was primarily in strip malls or the kind of edge-of-town retail areas where big box stores were found. The mall locale of The Children's Place chain gave it a unique identity. And Dabah believed that children's apparel was a market poised for immense growth. Dabah quickly initiated plans to get the chain back on its feet. He opened two new prototype stores, planning to build other new ones on the same model. These had a bright, open floor plan with walls accented by floral wallpaper; a toddler play area; revamped fitting rooms, including one for handicapped children; video monitors; and colorful posters and props. Unprofitable stores were shut down, layers of management cut, and the merchandise mix was reworked. Dabah preferred to go with an upscale image. Ninety percent of the clothing was branded, with labels like Gloria Vanderbilt, Bugle Boy, OshKosh, and Gitano. By late 1999, Dabah was able to claim that The Children's Place would turn a profit that year. Expenses were down, and inventory was turning over faster. Dabah also announced that the chain would continue to grow. In an article in WWD for September 18, 1989, Dabah revealed plans to add 20 to 30 stores in 1990, and eventually bring the chain up to 400 to 500 stores. Direct competitors were considered the department stores that frequently anchored malls, such as J.C. Penney and Macy's. Price was not to be the main draw at The Children's Place. The big come-on, Dabah declared to WWD, 'will be the merchandise itself.' Nevertheless, The Children's Place remained financially troubled. Between 1990 and 1992, the company lost \$60 million. Store closings outnumbered openings, bringing the total number in the chain to only 90. The investor group that had bought the firm filed for Chapter 11 in November 1993, along with Ezra Dabah and three other members of his family. The Dabah's Gitano Group was not doing well, either. It filed for bankruptcy in 1994. The Children's Place had trouble meeting its payments, and finally agreed in 1993 to an out-of-court settlement restructuring its debts. This allowed the firm to remain in business. Three years later, the company was still not financially sound, and it brought in two outside firms to help it handle its debt. These were Saunders Karp & Megrue (SKM), which took a stake of over 30 percent in The Children's Place, and Nomura Holding America, which took a smaller stake of around nine percent. The Dabah family continued to hold the remaining stock. By 1997, the company had changed its marketing thrust somewhat. Instead of offering high-priced brand-name merchandise, it sold good quality but value-priced children's clothing under its own brand name, Children's Place. This gave it more of a competitive edge against the many retailers it was up against in the children's market. These newcomers included Gap Kids, Baby Gap, and Old Navy, all offshoots of The Gap. Limited Too, a children's version of the long-standing mall-based The Limited chain; and Gymboree, a nationwide chain of children's clothing stores. The Children's Place seemed to lose its uniqueness. It lost out to discounters, but it was not as upscale as some of its department store competitors. It lacked guidance from Federated, and this was made worse in 1988, when the Federated conglomerate was bought by a Canadian company, Campeau Corp. Already a small piece of a big firm, The Children's Place was even farther from the center of operations after the sale of Federated. The Children's Place lost \$12 million in 1988, and Campeau decided to sell it. It went on the block along with a sister chain it had started in 1986, The Accessory Place. This was another mall-based chain, selling accessories to girls and young women. By 1988, The Children's Place had grown to 161 stores. Campeau hoped to get bids of \$75 million for the chain, in tandem with The Accessory Place, but no buyers were willing to shell out that much. Eventually the two chains together went for \$28 million. The purchaser was an investor group led by Morris Dabah, the head of the apparel corporation Gitano Group. Dabah's investor group bought the two chains from Federated, then sold The Accessory Place the next day for \$6 million. The chief executive position at The Children's Place was then taken over by Ezra Dabah, who was also president of E.J. Gitano. Gitano Group's children's division. He had a solid background in children's merchandising, extensive contacts with manufacturers, and was a father of five himself. Under Ezra Dabah in the 1990s Ezra Dabah was enthusiastic about running The Children's Place. He knew the company had not been well managed under Federated, but he was sure the chain had great potential. It was still the only national children's specialty chain to be found principally in malls. Its main competitor, Kids 'R' Us, was primarily in strip malls or the kind of edge-of-town retail areas where big box stores were found. The mall locale of The Children's Place chain gave it a unique identity. And Dabah believed that children's apparel was a market poised for immense growth. Dabah quickly initiated plans to get the chain back on its feet. He opened two new prototype stores, planning to build other new ones on the same model. These had a bright, open floor plan with walls accented by floral wallpaper; a toddler play area; revamped fitting rooms, including one for handicapped children; video monitors; and colorful posters and props. Unprofitable stores were shut down, layers of management cut, and the merchandise mix was reworked. Dabah preferred to go with an upscale image. Ninety percent of the clothing was branded, with labels like Gloria Vanderbilt, Bugle Boy, OshKosh, and Gitano. By late 1999, Dabah was able to claim that The Children's Place would turn a profit that year. Expenses were down, and inventory was turning over faster. Dabah also announced that the chain would continue to grow. In an article in WWD for September 18, 1989, Dabah revealed plans to add 20 to 30 stores in 1990, and eventually bring the chain up to 400 to 500 stores. Direct competitors were considered the department stores that frequently anchored malls, such as J.C. Penney and Macy's. Price was not to be the main draw at The Children's Place. The big come-on, Dabah declared to WWD, 'will be the merchandise itself.' Nevertheless, The Children's Place remained financially troubled. Between 1990 and 1992, the company lost \$60 million. Store closings outnumbered openings, bringing the total number in the chain to only 90. The investor group that had bought the firm filed for Chapter 11 in November 1993, along with Ezra Dabah and three other members of his family. The Dabah's Gitano Group was not doing well, either. It filed for bankruptcy in 1994. The Children's Place had trouble meeting its payments, and finally agreed in 1993 to an out-of-court settlement restructuring its debts. This allowed the firm to remain in business. Three years later, the company was still not financially sound, and it brought in two outside firms to help it handle its debt. These were Saunders Karp & Megrue (SKM), which took a stake of over 30 percent in The Children's Place, and Nomura Holding America, which took a smaller stake of around nine percent. The Dabah family continued to hold the remaining stock. By 1997, the company had changed its marketing thrust somewhat. Instead of offering high-priced brand-name merchandise, it sold good quality but value-priced children's clothing under its own brand name, Children's Place. This gave it more of a competitive edge against the many retailers it was up against in the children's market. These newcomers included Gap Kids, Baby Gap, and Old Navy, all offshoots of The Gap. Limited Too, a children's version of the long-standing mall-based The Limited chain; and Gymboree, a nationwide chain of children's clothing stores. The Children's Place seemed to lose its uniqueness. It lost out to discounters, but it was not as upscale as some of its department store competitors. It lacked guidance from Federated, and this was made worse in 1988, when the Federated conglomerate was bought by a Canadian company, Campeau Corp. Already a small piece of a big firm, The Children's Place was even farther from the center of operations after the sale of Federated. The Children's Place lost \$12 million in 1988, and Campeau decided to sell it. It went on the block along with a sister chain it had started in 1986, The Accessory Place. This was another mall-based chain, selling accessories to girls and young women. By 1988, The Children's Place had grown to 161 stores. Campeau hoped to get bids of \$75 million for the chain, in tandem with The Accessory Place, but no buyers were willing to shell out that much. Eventually the two chains together went for \$28 million. The purchaser was an investor group led by Morris Dabah, the head of the apparel corporation Gitano Group. Dabah's investor group bought the two chains from Federated, then sold The Accessory Place the next day for \$6 million. The chief executive position at The Children's Place was then taken over by Ezra Dabah, who was also president of E.J. Gitano. Gitano Group's children's division. He had a solid background in children's merchandising, extensive contacts with manufacturers, and was a father of five himself. Under Ezra Dabah in the 1990s Ezra Dabah was enthusiastic about running The Children's Place. He knew the company had not been well managed under Federated, but he was sure the chain had great potential. It was still the only national children's specialty chain to be found principally in malls. Its main competitor, Kids 'R' Us, was primarily in strip malls or the kind of edge-of-town retail areas where big box stores were found. The mall locale of The Children's Place chain gave it a unique identity. And Dabah believed that children's apparel was a market poised for immense growth. Dabah quickly initiated plans to get the chain back on its feet. He opened two new prototype stores, planning to build other new ones on the same model. These had a bright, open floor plan with walls accented by floral wallpaper; a toddler play area; revamped fitting rooms, including one for handicapped children; video monitors; and colorful posters and props. Unprofitable stores were shut down, layers of management cut, and the merchandise mix was reworked. Dabah preferred to go with an upscale image. Ninety percent of the clothing was branded, with labels like Gloria Vanderbilt, Bugle Boy, OshKosh, and Gitano. By late 1999, Dabah was able to claim that The Children's Place would turn a profit that year. Expenses were down, and inventory was turning over faster. Dabah also announced that the chain would continue to grow. In an article in WWD for September 18, 1989, Dabah revealed plans to add 20 to 30 stores in 1990, and eventually bring the chain up to 400 to 500 stores. Direct competitors were considered the department stores that frequently anchored malls, such as J.C. Penney and Macy's. Price was not to be the main draw at The Children's Place. The big come-on, Dabah declared to WWD, 'will be the merchandise itself.' Nevertheless, The Children's Place remained financially troubled. Between 1990 and 1992, the company lost \$60 million. Store closings outnumbered openings, bringing the total number in the chain to only 90. The investor group that had bought the firm filed for Chapter 11 in November 1993, along with Ezra Dabah and three other members of his family. The Dabah's Gitano Group was not doing well, either. It filed for bankruptcy in 1994. The Children's Place had trouble meeting its payments, and finally agreed in 1993 to an out-of-court settlement restructuring its debts. This allowed the firm to remain in business. Three years later, the company was still not financially sound, and it brought in two outside firms to help it handle its debt. These were Saunders Karp & Megrue (SKM), which took a stake of over 30 percent in The Children's Place, and Nomura Holding America, which took a smaller stake of around nine percent. The Dabah family continued to hold the remaining stock. By 1997, the company had changed its marketing thrust somewhat. Instead of offering high-priced brand-name merchandise, it sold good quality but value-priced children's clothing under its own brand name, Children's Place. This gave it more of a competitive edge against the many retailers it was up against in the children's market. These newcomers included Gap Kids, Baby Gap, and Old Navy, all offshoots of The Gap. Limited Too, a children's version of the long-standing mall-based The Limited chain; and Gymboree, a nationwide chain of children's clothing stores. The Children's Place seemed to lose its uniqueness. It lost out to discounters, but it was not as upscale as some of its department store competitors. It lacked guidance from Federated, and this was made worse in 1988, when the Federated conglomerate was bought by a Canadian company, Campeau Corp. Already a small piece of a big firm, The Children's Place was even farther from the center of operations after the sale of Federated. The Children's Place lost \$12 million in 1988, and Campeau decided to sell it. It went on the block along with a sister chain it had started in 1986, The Accessory Place. This was another mall-based chain, selling accessories to girls and young women. By 1988, The Children's Place had grown to 161 stores. Campeau hoped to get bids of \$75 million for the chain, in tandem with The Accessory Place, but no buyers were willing to shell out that much. Eventually the two chains together went for \$28 million. The purchaser was an investor group led by Morris Dabah, the head of the apparel corporation Gitano Group. Dabah's investor group bought the two chains from Federated, then sold The Accessory Place the next day for \$6 million. The chief executive position at The Children's Place was then taken over by Ezra Dabah, who was also president of E.J. Gitano. Gitano Group's children's division. He had a solid background in children's merchandising, extensive contacts with manufacturers, and was a father of five himself. Under Ezra Dabah in the 1990s Ezra Dabah was enthusiastic about running The Children's Place. He knew the company had not been well managed under Federated, but he was sure the chain had great potential. It was still the only national children's specialty chain to be found principally in malls. Its main competitor, Kids 'R' Us, was primarily in strip malls or the kind of edge-of-town retail areas where big box stores were found. The mall locale of The Children's Place chain gave it a unique identity. And Dabah believed that children's apparel was a market poised for immense growth. Dabah quickly initiated plans to get the chain back on its feet. He opened two new prototype stores, planning to build other new ones on the same model. These had a bright, open floor plan with walls accented by floral wallpaper; a toddler play area; revamped fitting rooms, including one for handicapped children; video monitors; and colorful posters and props. Unprofitable stores were shut down, layers of management cut, and the merchandise mix was reworked. Dabah preferred to go with an upscale image. Ninety percent of the clothing was branded, with labels like Gloria Vanderbilt, Bugle Boy, OshKosh, and Gitano. By late 1999, Dabah was able to claim that The Children's Place would turn a profit that year. Expenses were down, and inventory was turning over faster. Dabah also announced that the chain would continue to grow. In an article in WWD for September 18, 1989, Dabah revealed plans to add 20 to 30 stores in 1990, and eventually bring the chain up to 400 to 500 stores. Direct competitors were considered the department stores that frequently anchored malls, such as J.C. Penney and Macy's. Price was not to be the main draw