



AUSTRALIAN COMPETITION
& CONSUMER COMMISSION

Baby and nursery products

Australian mandatory safety standards

November 2018

If you are a manufacturer, importer, wholesaler or retailer of baby and nursery products supplied to Australia (online or shop front) you **must** comply with the applicable Australian mandatory safety standards. Supplying or selling non-compliant baby and nursery products to consumers in Australia is illegal.

Child restraints for use in motor vehicles

Child car restraints are used to restrain a child in a car and reduce the risk of their bodily injury or death in the event of a car accident.

The Australian standard lists eight types of child restraints. These include:

- Type A: rearward-facing or transversely installed restraints with a harness (there are eight variations in this type)
- Type B: forward-facing chair with harness for children approximately six months to four years of age
- Type C: forward-facing harness used with a booster seat without a chair (there are two variations in this type)
- Type D: rearward-facing chair with harness for children approximately six months to four years of age
- Type E: a booster seat used in conjunction with a lap-sash seatbelt for children less than 128 cm in height
- Type F: a booster seat used in conjunction with a lap-sash seatbelt for children less than 138 cm in height
- Type G: forward-facing chair with harness for children approximately six months to eight years of age
- Type H: converter used with a booster seat or with a seatbelt without a booster.

Combination Type: Child restraints can also be a combination of the above types such as:

- Type AB
- Type BE.

Child restraints designed for children with a disability or features that already come with the car are excluded from the mandatory standard.

Labels

Warning labels must permanently and legibly appear on all child restraints. The mandatory standard includes additional warnings required for each particular type of restraint and further information on the size, wording and format of the warning.

The following warnings must appear on all child car restraints and child restraint packaging:

- use the restraint exactly as shown in the instructions
- supervision of children is needed because they may be able to undo buckles

- **WARNING: DO NOT LEAVE CHILDREN UNATTENDED IN THE CAR**
- do not alter or modify this restraint
- repairs must only be done by the manufacturer or agent
- do not allow the restraint to come into contact with polishes, oils, bleach and other chemicals
- destroy the restraint if it has been in a severe crash, even if no damage is visible.

Instructions

Instructions for installation, use and maintenance of child restraints must come in a booklet or sheet attached to the child restraint. These should be removable or provided in a pocket as part of the child restraint. For Type C restraints the booklet or sheet must be in the package with the child restraint.

Other key requirements

- There must be upper tether straps to reduce a child's head jolting forward in a car accident.
- Forward-facing restraints must have double crotch straps—with a minimum five-point harness.
- The harness should have a single-point adjustment.
- The harness adjusters must be self-locking.
- The harness should have a quick-release buckle.
- Covers and liners must:
 - cover any polystyrene that could be toxic to a child
 - ensure harnesses aren't easily twisted or tangled.
- Other components and accessories must :
 - be rigid, not come off and not be sharp or harmful if a child can access them
 - have size and dimension requirements on the anchoring system so child restraints are compatible with different car seats.
- Components must be durable enough to resist regular wear.
- Webbing ends must not unthread.
- Suppliers should include testing for frontal, side, rear and inverted simulated impacts.

Household cots

Household cots typically include rectangular cots that are a permanent sleeping enclosure for an infant or baby with raised sides and ends which have slats or filler bars. They can also be cots that convert to a toddler bed. When this type of cot is constructed to work as a cot, it must comply with the mandatory standard.

Antique or collectable cots are exempt from the mandatory standard.

Labels

Household cots must come with information about safe assembly, use and recommended mattress size.

Suppliers must provide assembly information on:

- a leaflet with the cot
- a swing tag or label attached to the cot
- external packaging that comes with the cot, and
- the actual cot.

Cots must have legible, durable and prominent marking on the mattress base which provides information about:

- the supplier and month/year of manufacture
- recommended mattress size and thickness
- recommended use of adjustable bases on cots that have this feature.

Antique or collectable cots should be supplied with a mandatory certificate from the supplier stating that it is not safe to place a child in the cot. They should also include two fixed metal plaques on the cot with the following warning label (not to scale):



Other key requirements

- Cots must meet the requirements for impact, strength, load, durability and stability.
- The mandatory standard outlines design and construction requirements for cots that are either fixed base or have up to two base positions. This includes minimum distance and size requirement for:
 - the top of the mattress base and the top edge of the lowest cot side for the upper or lower base positions
 - slats and filler bars
 - cot mattresses
 - footholds or toeholds
 - hazardous gaps
- Second-hand cots have the same design and construction requirements as new cots. However there are three exceptions:
 - protrusions must be no greater than 8 mm
 - there must be no gaps greater than 95 mm but there are no requirements preventing gaps between 30 and 50 mm
 - there are no requirements for informative labels and safety markings.

Folding cots

Folding cots are enclosures that can be used for sleeping and can be folded when not in use. They include items referred to as a playpen that have a floor and should only be used by parents and carers to provide temporary sleeping accommodation for infants.

Folding cots can either come with a fixed mattress that forms part of the base or a separate mattress that can be removed.

Labels

A permanent, prominent and legible warning label must be marked on the inside of the cot so that users will see the marking when erecting the cot. The label must include:

- instructions for assembly and locking procedures
- a warning to check before each use that the cot is correctly assembled and that locking devices are fully engaged
- either a warning to only use a mattress of specified dimensions or a warning to only use the mattress supplied with the product—both are allowed
- a warning not to add an extra mattress as this may cause suffocation.

Other key requirements

- The mattress and all padding and cushioning material must be sufficiently firm to stop them forming to the contours of a child's face
- The base should be designed to provide a firm flat support for a mattress, or should incorporate a mattress
- The mattress must touch the cot on every side and should fit snugly
- Folding cots must not have a mattress or other parts within the cot that are inflatable in their construction. Both manually inflating and self-inflating mattresses are not allowed.
- Minimum height measurements apply to sides and ends of the folding cot and positions of feature that might be used as footholds.
- Minimum measurements also apply to the depth of folding cots in both upper or lower positions with and without mattresses.
- Minimum measurements also apply to footholds
- All locking devices should:
 - have a clear and distinct locked position
 - be designed so that a child inside the cot cannot open or activate the mechanism.

Baby walkers

Baby walkers applies to devices that are:

- comprised of a frame on wheels
- designed to support a child who has not yet learned to walk, inside the frame, with its feet touching the ground
- propelled by the movement of the child.

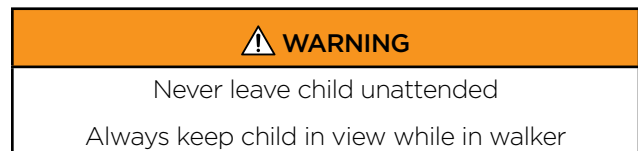
The mandatory standard excludes baby jumpers or stationary infant activity centres.

Labels

The baby walker must be permanently marked with a warning label that is:

- in contrasting colour(s)
- permanent
- conspicuous
- in sans serif style font, and
- has a safety alert symbol.

Baby walkers must be marked with the following warning labels (not to scale):



Note: the orange background to the word 'WARNING' is not mandatory in this label.



Note: The words 'even when using parking brake' are only required for baby walkers with parking brakes.

Refer to the mandatory standard for specific size and colour requirements.

The following warning labels must also appear on the walker:

- Use only on flat surfaces free of objects that could cause the walker to tip over.
- To avoid burns, keep the child away from hot liquids, ranges, radiators, space heaters, fireplaces, etc.
- For baby walkers with parking brakes:
 - Warning: Parking brake use does not totally prevent walker movement. Always keep child in view when in the walker, even when using the parking brakes (only for baby walkers equipped with a parking brake).

Other key requirements

Baby walkers must have a braking mechanism to stop it falling down steps and stairs and be tested for:

- tipping and toppling resistance
- braking and stopping mechanism effectiveness.

Prams and strollers

A pram is a wheeled vehicle with a body of box-like or boat-like shape designed to carry a baby or child weighing up to and including 9 kg, primarily in a fully reclined position.

A stroller is a wheeled vehicle designed to transport a child in a seated position and may also be adjustable to a semi-reclined or fully reclined position. This includes strollers that may convert from or into another product, such as a tricycle.

Combination prams/strollers are covered by the mandatory standard.

Labels

Prams and strollers must be permanently and conspicuously marked with the following notice in a prominent position (not to scale):

WARNING

FOLLOW THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS

PUT ON ALL THE BRAKES WHENEVER YOU PARK THE PRAM/STROLLER*

DO NOT LEAVE THE CHILD UNATTENDED

DO NOT CARRY EXTRA CHILDREN OR BAGS ON THIS PRAM/STROLLER*

MAKE SURE CHILDREN ARE CLEAR OF ANY MOVING PARTS IF YOU ADJUST THE PRAM/STROLLER, OTHERWISE THEY MAY BE INJURED.

* Use either the term 'pram' or the term 'stroller' as appropriate.

Tether straps must be permanently and conspicuously marked with the following warning (not to scale):

WARNING

USE THIS STRAP TO STOP THE PRAM/STROLLER* ROLLING AWAY

* Use either the term 'pram' or the term 'stroller' as appropriate.

Prams and strollers must also be permanently and conspicuously marked with:

- the registered trade name and address in Australia and New Zealand of either the manufacturer, importer or supplier
- the model name or model number of the pram or stroller

Stroller harnesses must be permanently and conspicuously marked with the following warning label (not to scale):

WARNING

USE THIS HARNESS AT ALL TIMES

Non-reclining strollers with a backrest that is not adjustable to recline to an angle of more than 130° to the horizontal, must be permanently and conspicuously marked with the following additional warning (not to scale):

WARNING

NOT RECOMMENDED FOR A CHILD UNDER 6 MONTHS OLD

Other key requirements

Prams and strollers

- Prams and strollers must have one or more parking devices that limits the movement of the stroller or pram.
- The release mechanism of the parking device must be located so that it is not easily accessible to a child when the child is properly restrained in the pram or stroller.
- The actuator (part of the parking device used to activate the parking mechanism) must be red and the surrounding framework and mouldings must be in a contrasting colour.
- Prams and strollers must be supplied with a suitable tether strap. The tether strap should be designed to reduce the possibility of it being a strangulation hazard to infants inside and outside the vehicle.

Strollers only

- Design and construction requirements apply to safety harnesses, waist straps, crotch straps and the head barrier.
- There are specific testing requirements for head barriers.

Refer to the mandatory standard for more information.

Baby dummies and dummy chains

A baby dummy, also known as a pacifier or soother, is an article intended to satisfy the non-nutritive sucking needs of a baby, which includes a teat that the baby sucks.

A dummy chain includes pins, ribbons, strings, cords, chains, twines, leathers, yarns or any other similar article that is designed to be attached to babies' dummies.

Dummies intended for use by premature babies or for therapeutic applications and under medical supervision or direction are excluded from the mandatory standard.

Labels

Dummies must be sold in a clean condition in a sealed pack and must come with the following warning label and instructions (not to scale):

WARNING

A torn or broken dummy poses a choking hazard. Inspect carefully before each use. Pull the teat in all directions. Throw away at the first sign of damage or weakness.

A cord or ribbon attached to a dummy poses a strangulation hazard. Do not attach a dummy to your child's clothing.



The warning notice must be clearly legible and:

- have a character height minimum of 2.5 mm
- include the word **WARNING** in bold and on a separate line
- include information about inspecting the dummy for damage or weakness before each use and the strangulation hazards associated with attaching the dummy with a cord or ribbon.

Other key requirements

Baby dummies

- All components must be free from any sharp edges that could cause injury.
- The shield of the dummy must be of a minimum size so it does not fit fully inside the baby's mouth.
- The shield must have two or more ventilation holes of a specific size and in certain positions to allow the baby to breath in case the dummy becomes lodged in the mouth.
- The teat must be smooth and not allow fluid to leak inside or fill the teat as bacteria can grow and potentially cause infection.
- The ring or handle must be secure and not detach from the shield or come apart.
- The ring or handle must be able to be gripped to allow easy removal of the dummy by an adult carer in case it becomes lodged in the baby's mouth.
- Dummies must not have any printing on the sucking side of the shield or any adhesive decals attached to any part of the dummy.
- Decorations must not become detached during conditioning or testing of the dummy.
- Tensile and shield tests should be performed to ensure the dummy meets requirements for strength, durability and size. When tested, no part of the dummy should become detached, torn, fractured or broken.

Dummy chains

- A dummy chain must have a maximum length of 220 mm so as not to become a strangulation hazard.
- No part of the dummy chain should break, tear or separate when subjected to testing
- The garment fastener (which attaches the dummy chain to the baby's clothing) must not break, tear or separate during testing that involves the repeated opening and closing of the jaws of the fastener.
- Adhesive decals and labels must not be attached to the dummy chain.

Baby bath aids

Baby bath aids are designed to support a baby while being bathed.

Designs vary and may include:

- bath seats
- cradles
- hammocks
- recliners
- supports
- flotation rings

supports that are accessories for, or integral to, a baby bathtub.

Labels

On Bath Aid

Baby bath aids must be permanently marked with the following warning statement (not to scale):



The statement must include:

- the word **WARNING** in upper case letters and at least 10 mm high
- the words **DROWNED**, **NOT**, **ALWAYS** and **NEVER** in upper case letters and at least 5 mm high
- lower case letters must be at least 2.5mm high
- two safety alert symbols located immediately to the left and right of the words of the warning statement. The triangles must:
 - be equilateral (all sides with equal length of at least 30 mm)
 - have an exclamation mark inside it and be at least 13 millimetres high
 - the letters, triangles and exclamation marks must be in a contrasting colour to the background of the warning statement.

The warning must be:

- fixed permanently onto the baby bath aid
- located on the baby bath aid in a conspicuous place
- be clearly visible when a baby is in the baby bath aid.

On packaging

A safety warning on the baby bath aid's packaging is not required if it is clearly legible through the packaging and the packaging is colourless and transparent.



Testing

Suppliers of products that are subject to mandatory standards are encouraged to use specialist laboratories to conduct testing of those products to ensure they comply with the mandatory standard.

Visit the Product Safety Australia website for more information on [product testing](#).

Consumer guarantees

All traders supplying into the Australian market, whether you are in Australia or not, must comply with Australian trading laws. Suppliers must provide consumers with a repair, replacement or refund if goods are faulty, unsafe, do not work or appear as they should. These laws form part of the Australian Consumer Law (contained in Schedule 2 to the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010*).

For more information, visit the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission website www.accc.gov.au/consumerrights.

More information

Suppliers should read the applicable mandatory and voluntary standards for the full compliance requirements.

The mandatory standards are based on certain sections of the Australian, Australian and New Zealand, American and/or European voluntary standards. The voluntary standards are available from [SAI Global](#).

Product	Mandatory standard	Voluntary standard
Child restraints for use in motor vehicles	Consumer Protection Notice No.3 of 2014	AS/NZS 1754 (2004, 2010 and 2013 versions)
Household cots	Consumer Protection Notice No.6 of 2005	AS/NZS 2172:2003 AS 8124.7-2003
Folding cots	Consumer Protection Notice No.4 of 2008	AS/NZS 2195:1999
Baby walkers	Consumer Protection Notice No.1 of 2013	ASTM F977-12
Prams and strollers	Consumer Protection Notice No.8 of 2007	AS/NZS 2088:2000
Baby dummies and dummy chains*	Consumer Goods (Babies' Dummies and Dummy Chains) Safety Standard 2017	AS 2432:2015 EN 1400:2013+A1:2014 EN 12586:2007+A1:2011
Baby bath aids	Consumer Goods (Baby Bath Aids) Safety Standard 2017	ASTM F1967-13

* The mandatory standard currently includes a transitional period to assist with the changeover to the new mandatory standard. Up to 30 June 2019, suppliers have the option to comply with the requirements from either the new mandatory standard or the Consumer Protection Notice No. 33 of 2011. From 1 July 2019 suppliers must only comply with the Consumer Goods (Babies' Dummies and Dummy Chains) Safety Standard 2017.

Visit our website: www.productsafety.gov.au

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