



IMPROVING
CHILDREN'S
PRODUCT
SAFETY



Children's Product Safety Guide

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KID made this product safety guide with you and the children you care for in mind. It can be used as a safety resource from birth through childhood – or you can pick it up and flip right to the page you need, whenever you need it.

When you are done using the guide, please pass it on to another parent or caregiver with young children to help spread awareness, share resources, and ultimately, keep kids safe!

To order additional copies, please contact Email@KidsInDanger.org

These icons will help guide you to the product safety information that is most relevant to the child's age. Some pages have all 3 icons, meaning the information is important no matter what the child's age.



Baby

**Information
specifically for children
aged 0-1.**



Toddler

**Information
specifically for children
aged 1-3.**



Child

**Information
specifically for children
ages 3 and up.**

Recall Resources

Sometimes a problem arises with a product after it has reached the market that can cause injury to consumers. The US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) works with the companies to announce a recall of these products. While many unsafe products are recalled, many other unsafe products have not been recalled, and remain for sale and in use despite their hazards. Children's products are recalled every week. Below are resources to help parents and caregivers keep up with recalls. To learn more about these unsafe products, visit KidsInDanger.org and follow us on social media.

To learn more about children's product safety, visit www.KidsInDanger.org



Child Product Recalls:

Search your products for recalls at home by visiting CPSC.gov



To search your products for recalls on the go, visit KidsInDanger.org from your smartphone



Report unsafe products and read product safety reports by consumers at SaferProducts.gov



Car Seat Recalls:

Visit nhtsa.gov to search for car seat recalls and to receive recall notices by email

Food Recalls:

Visit fda.gov to search for food recalls and to receive recall notices by email



Safe Sleep Guidelines

Statement of Safe Sleep

A baby sleeps safest in a **bare** crib, play yard, or bassinet that hasn't been recalled and meets the **federal standard**. The crib should have a **tight fitting mattress** with a fitted sheet only. Babies should be placed **on their backs** and wearing **footed pajamas or wearable blankets** when needed.



To help prevent SIDS or suffocation, **keep all items out of the crib, including:**



Toys



Heavy Blankets



Pillows



Sleep positioners



Crib bumper pads

Top 3 Safe Sleep Tips:

- 1 Cribs manufactured after June 28, 2011, meet the world's strongest safety standard.
- 2 Bare is best. Decorate the nursery, not the crib.
- 3 Share the room, not the bed, with baby.



Choking and Ingestion Hazards

Young children learn from their environment by putting objects into their mouths. Here's what to watch out for and actions to take to prevent choking or ingestion of dangerous items. **For choking incidents, call 911 immediately.**



Test small parts and objects with an empty toilet paper tube. Anything that fits in the tube is too small for a child under age 3.

Watch for parts that might break off of a larger toy and present a choking hazard.



Tiny, powerful earth magnets can damage internal organs if swallowed by attracting across tissues. It is hard to keep track of these tiny magnets, so **keep them out of homes with small children.**

Button batteries can easily be swallowed and cause serious damage to the esophagus and gastrointestinal tract. If your child ingests a button battery, seek medical attention immediately.



Uninflated or broken balloons and pieces can cut off the respiratory airways if swallowed. CPR can inflate the balloon and make removal difficult. **Keep uninflated or broken balloons away from children under age 8.**

If you suspect that a child has been exposed to a potentially harmful substance, don't hesitate, call your local Poison Center immediately. No issue or question too big or too small, call any time of the day or night.



Tip-Over Prevention

One child dies every two weeks when a TV, a piece of furniture, or an appliance falls. Each year, on average, more than 22,000 children 8 years and younger are treated for injuries related to furniture instability or tip-overs.



To help prevent tip-over hazards, follow these simple, low-cost safety tips:

- Anchor furniture to the wall or the floor with straps or brackets.
- Place TVs on sturdy low bases, or anchor the furniture and the TV on top of it. Push the TV as far back on the furniture as possible.
- Keep TV and cable cords out of reach of children.
- Keep remote controls and other attractive items off the TV stand so children won't be tempted to grab for them and risk knocking over the TV.
- Make sure free-standing ranges and stoves are installed with anti-tip brackets.

In addition, other furniture items like **hope chests, bean bag chairs, and bunk beds** have entrapped and killed children. Locks should be removed and holes should be drilled in the chests. Zippers on bean bag chairs should be permanently disabled. Remember when checking for recalls to look for furniture recalls as well.

Taking a few moments now to anchor and secure TVs, furniture and appliances can save your child from a tip-over tragedy. For more information, visit www.ShanesFoundation.org and www.AnchorIt.gov.



Buy/Sell Safety Checklist

Dangerous children's products commonly show up in garage sales,

church rummage sales, online (via sites such as Craigslist), and as hand-me-downs. When buying, selling, donating or receiving second hand items, complete this safety checklist to help keep kids safe from unsafe products. If you are a seller, display this checklist and let your customers know about your commitment to safety!



Buy/Sell Safety Checklist:

- I've checked all products that I intend to buy/sell against the CPSC's list of recalled products at www.CPSC.gov.
- If I am buying or selling a crib, I made sure that it was made after **June 28, 2011**, and therefore meets the world's strongest safety standard. Cribs made before that date do not meet the standard and are not legal to resell.
- No items have broken or missing pieces (especially for items that need to be assembled, such as cribs).
- Baby bath seats or bath rings, baby walkers, crib bumper pads and sleep positioners are not safe to use, so I will not buy/sell them.
- I have included/requested manufacturer info, instructions, and product registration cards when possible. If not, these can sometimes be found on the manufacturer's website. An online directory of manufacturer's websites for product registration is available at www.KidsInDanger.org/publications.
- Some products just shouldn't be resold, including used car seats and bike helmets, so I won't be buying/selling those.
- I made sure that children's clothing doesn't have drawstrings around the hood or neck. *(If there are drawstrings, just pull them out, discard them, and the clothing is good to go!)*



Following these guidelines will help ensure that products are safe to buy/sell. To check products for recalls on the go, visit www.KidsInDanger.org from your smartphone.

Emerging Hazards

New products are constantly entering the market that can pose real dangers to children. Some of these products are intended for children but haven't been tested to meet strong federal safety standards. Other products are not intended for children but are affecting their safety. KID is working hard with other safety advocates to address these hazards so the children in your care are safe. To learn more about our advocacy work and to get involved, visit KidsInDanger.org/advocacy



Sleep products intended for infant (1 year and under) that don't meet a federal safety standard:

Sleep is one time a child is not necessarily supervised, so it's important that the product used during sleep is safe. New infant sleeping products are often available for purchase that haven't been tested against established safety standards. Remember, a baby sleeps safest in a crib, play yard, or bassinet that hasn't been recalled and meets the federal standard.

Detergent packets: Ingestion of laundry detergent packets is on the rise in recent years because of their appeal to young children (many mistake them for candy or a teether) and the lack of child resistant packaging. If you have children under six, consider avoiding the use of laundry packets. In all cases, keep them locked and out of the reach of children.



Liquid Nicotine: Just ½ teaspoon of liquid nicotine found in e-cigarettes can be deadly to a child. Kid friendly flavors, colors, and only recent requirements to use child resistant packaging have contributed to the deaths of several children. FDA has issued rules requiring child resistant packaging, but it isn't on all products.

To keep up with new emerging hazards, please visit KidsInDanger.org and follow us on social media.



Managing your Product Safety



Most children's products come with a product registration card.

Completing the registration can prevent injury and save a life.

Fast Facts about product registration:

- Product registration is the best way a manufacturer can contact you directly in the event of a recall.
- Cannot be used for marketing or other commercial purposes
- Must be postage paid

What you can do:

- As soon as you open the package of a durable child's product, fill out the registration card and put it in the mail.
- If you don't have the registration card or if you prefer to register online, go to the manufacturer's site. A list of product registration pages can also be found at KidsInDanger.org/publications.

Use this form to track products you buy and use to care for your child.

Check all products for recalls at www.CPSC.gov. If you give a product away or loan it to a friend or relative, make a note of who has it so you can contact them if it is recalled.

Keep up with recalls by signing up for email alerts at www.CPSC.gov and monthly updates on children's product safety news, including recalls, at www.KidsInDanger.org. Report any problems with your children's products at www.SaferProducts.gov.

Child Product Inventory Sheet				
Product	Manufacturer	Model Number	Date Purchased	Notes



How KID can be your Safety Resource

KID has a variety of resources for parents, grandparents, healthcare professionals and caregivers beyond the information contained in this booklet. **Here are our top 5:**

1. Workshops



Our workshop, *Creating Safe Environments for Children*, is an Illinois Gateways to Opportunity registry-approved training. Trainings are customizable to audience and interest but cover topics including safe sleep, choking/ingestion hazards, and recalls. If you or your organization is interested in hosting a workshop, please contact KID at Email@KidsInDanger.org or **312-595-0649**.

2. Monthly Email Alert



Sign up for the KID Monthly Email Alert at www.KidsInDanger.org to stay informed about current safety news, recall updates, and other important information.

3. Download Free Materials Visit the Publications section of our website to find resources in English and Spanish available for free download.

4. Visit Kid.org Visit KidsInDanger.org to learn more.



5. Social Media



Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/KidsInDanger and on



Twitter at [@kidsindanger](http://www.twitter.com/KidsInDanger) to get live updates of safety news, including recalls.

3 Steps to Safety

Step 1 - Learn about the problem - For general product safety information, visit www.KidsInDanger.org.

Step 2 - Check your products for safety - Do an inventory of the items used by children and check it against recalls at www.CPSC.gov.

Step 3 - Act to keep kids safe by keeping up with recalls, reporting unsafe products, and by spreading the word.

Stay informed on child product safety issues by signing up for safety alerts at www.KidsInDanger.org and direct notification of recalls at www.CPSC.gov.

Submit and view reports of unsafe children's products at www.SaferProducts.gov.





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Danny's Story

On May 12, 1998, 16-month-old Daniel Keysar was strangled to death at his licensed childcare facility when his Playskool Travel-Lite portable crib collapsed, trapping his neck in the "V" of its folding rails.



After his death, his parents discovered that the crib has been recalled 5 years earlier.

Danny was also not the first, but the fifth victim of the crib. In total, these types of cribs have killed at least 19 children.

Mobilizing their grief into a movement of positive change, Danny's parents founded KID after they discovered their son's death was not an accident, but a tragedy that occurred as the result of a flawed system of product safety.

Today, KID is working to reform the juvenile product system so that potentially dangerous products never reach the marketplace. You can help KID continue to be the voice for safer children's products with a donation to KID at www.KidsInDanger.org. Your financial support is critical for KID to continue its important work and help save lives.

KID's mission is to **promote** the development of safer products, **advocate** for children, and **educate** the public, especially parents and caregivers, about children's product safety.

