

SECOND-HAND COTS



Second-hand cots must now comply with the mandatory safety requirements of Australian Standard AS/NZS: 2172

These requirements do not permit gaps where a child could become trapped, or protrusions that could cause a child's clothing to snag.

Newer cots are generally safer than older second-hand cots.

Problems Encountered

- With all second-hand furniture check for wear and tear.
- Check that the second hand cot has not been painted with a lead-based paint. These are poisonous and could cause severe injury or death. The age of the cot should indicate the probability eg antique furniture

For further advice about the dangers of lead poisoning contact:

- Total Environment Centre 9299 5599
- Lead Advisory Service 9716 0132
- EPA 131 555
- Poisons Information 13 1126.

Possible Hazards

- Cot unstable
- Obvious repairs to structure
- Spaces between vertical bars are less than 50mm or larger than 85mm.
- Castors missing
- Locking devices on castors not working
- Sides of cot not locking securely
- Gaps that allow for finger or body entrapment of child.
- Protruding or sharp structures.

Mattress Hazards

- Not original mattress
- Mattress has tears, stains or smells
- More than one mattress

If you buy new then you can be sure about the history and quality of the product.

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