

Toy safety

What to look for when buying toys for children



- ✓ Buy washable, non-breakable toys for babies.
- ✓ Read the labelling on new toys. 'Not suitable for children aged under 3' means that there are small parts which could be swallowed; it is not an indication of skill level or intelligence.
- ✓ Check toys regularly for loose parts which may be choking dangers. Anything smaller than a 20 cent piece can choke a child under 3 years of age. You can also find out about the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission 'Choke Check tool' at www.productsafety.gov.au/chokecheck
- ✓ Toy chests and boxes should have a removable lid. Anything big enough to crawl inside must have ventilation holes, including tents. Helmets and masks must also have ventilation holes.
- ✓ Check that there are no gaps or holes which could trap a child's fingers.
- ✓ Be wary of toys that make loud noises as they can be harmful to hearing.
- ✓ Check for sharp edges or rough surfaces as they can cause cuts and splinters.
- ✓ Ensure that ride-on toys are appropriate to the age of the child and are stable.
- ✓ Check magnetic toys for loose and separable magnets. If magnets are swallowed they may cause blockage of the digestive system resulting in serious injury.
- ✓ Projectile toys, such as bows and arrows, can lead to injury if fired at or near others. Always supervise children and warn them not to fire at or near a person's face.

www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au Enquiries 13 32 20

Language assistance 13 14 50 (*ask for an interpreter in your language*)

TTY 1300 723 404 for hearing impaired



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