

Prenatal

Make Your Home Safe Before Your Baby Comes Home

Crib Safety

Old cribs may not be safe and may put your baby at risk for injury. Make sure you use a crib made after September 1986.

A safe crib needs:

- A solid frame
- Sides that lock into place
- A firm mattress that is tight against all four sides of the crib

A safe crib should **not** have:

- Spaces between the bars that are more than 6 cm (2 3/8 in.)
- Bumper pads, quilts, stuffed animals or pillows in the crib as they may cause your baby to suffocate

Place the crib away from windows.

Move the crib mattress to the lowest position when your baby is able to sit up on her own (around 6 months). Remove mobiles and railing toys as your baby may become caught in them and hurt.



Buying a Car Seat

A baby must always be placed in a car seat in the back seat of a vehicle.

Not all car seats work well with all vehicles. Before you travel with your baby, try the car seat in your vehicle. If the car seat does not fit in your vehicle, return it and buy a different one.

Install the car seat following the instruction manual and the vehicle manual.

Mail the warranty card to the manufacturer. They will then contact you if there is a recall on the car seat.

If you buy a used car seat, find out:

- Has the car seat been in a crash?
- Is the car seat more than 10 years old (date found on a sticker on the seat) or past its expiry date (on the plastic of the seat)?
- Are any of the straps frayed or torn?
- Are there any cracks in the plastic shell?
- Is it missing any parts?

If you can say yes to any of these questions, do not use the car seat.

Baby Walkers are Banned

It is against the law to buy, sell or use a baby walker in Canada. Baby walkers allow children to travel faster and further than they should. Babies in baby walkers are more likely to fall down stairs or come too close to hot or dangerous appliances.



Do Not Use Bath Seats or Bath Rings

Bath seats and rings have been linked to drowning in infants and young children. Never leave your baby alone in the bath or in the care of another child.

Second-hand Equipment Warning

Call the manufacturer or Health Canada (1-866-662-0666) to make sure that used or second-hand equipment such as car seats, strollers, toys and cribs have not been recalled for safety reasons.