



Safe Sleep Tips

A crib is the most important safety equipment that parents obtain for their new baby. **Use the following tips and guidelines to protect children** from dangerous sleeping environments.

What is a safe sleep environment? A safe sleep environment is a crib, bassinet or portable crib/play yard that meets CPSC and ASTM standards; including a tightly fitted sheet and a baby placed on its back -- **nothing else should be in the crib**. Sleepers and wearable blankets can help parents avoid possible hazardous blankets in the crib.

Choosing a crib

Cribs sold after June 28, 2011 now meet the *world's strongest testing standard*, which means: A ban on drop-side cribs, stringent durability testing, additional testing of slat and mattress support strength, and strong visual cues and warnings to aid in correct assembly and usage. Childcare facilities and places of public accommodation have until 12/28/2012 to comply with the new standard.

If you are using a crib purchased before June 28, 2011 use the following guidelines until you are able to purchase a crib that meets the new standard:

- Never use a crib that was made before 1999 – it will not meet basic safety standards.
- Drop-side cribs pose life-threatening entrapment and suffocation hazards because the hardware can break or become loose creating a dangerous gap where babies can become entrapped and suffocate or strangle. **No drop-side meets the new standard**, but if you have no alternative to using one, some drop-side crib manufacturers offer immobilizers, a device that secures the drop-side. Check CPSC's website for companies that have recalled their cribs and are providing immobilizers or contact the manufacturer directly: <http://www.cpsc.gov/onsafety/2010/12/crib-immobilizers-who-to-call/>
- Even newer cribs may have missing hardware or loose parts, or be subject to a recall. If your crib has been used before -- by you or someone else-- check it carefully against the recall list at www.cpsc.gov and only use it if you have the instructions, all the parts, and it goes together snugly with no loose parts.

Check ALL cribs for:

- Slats are close together and cannot entrap a child (if a soda can fits, it is too wide).
- No corner post extensions or cut-out shapes that can catch on a child's clothing or toys.
- Hardware (screws and bolts) secure crib components tightly and are not loose or missing.
- Crib is free of protruding rivets, metal nuts or bolts, knobs, and wing nuts.
- Mattress is tight-fitting; 2 fingers cannot fit between the mattress and crib's side.
- Joints and parts fit tightly, and wood is smooth and free of splinters.
- There is no cracked or peeling paint.

Using a crib safely

- Read and follow the directions carefully for set up and use of the crib. Replacement instructions can be obtained from the manufacturer. Cribs that meet the new standard must be assembled only in the correct configuration or provide strong visual cues to parents that the assembly is incorrect.
- Use sheets that are tight-fitting and do not come loose.
- Check often that mattress support and other hardware is secure and working properly.
- Position mobiles out of a child's reach and remove when child starts to push up on hands and knees.
- Never hang anything on or above the crib with ribbon or string.
- Drop mattress to the lowest position when a child can pull himself up.
- Stop using a crib with loose or missing parts or hardware and contact the manufacturer.

Bare is best

- Soft materials such as pillows or comforters should not be placed under a sleeping infant.
- Keep soft objects and loose bedding, including crib bumper pads and sleep positioners, out of the crib.
- Babies under six months should sleep near the caregiver, but in a separate sleeping environment.
- The infant should be lightly clothed for sleep. Avoid over-bundling. Use a blanket sleeper if needed in order to keep blankets or other dangerous coverings out of the crib.
- Avoid commercial devices marketed to reduce the risk of SIDS, including sleep positioners and home monitors, which are placed on the baby to measure movement and breathing. There is no evidence that these products actually reduce the frequency of SIDS and they themselves pose dangerous hazards.
- Always keep all cords away from the sleep environment, including baby monitors and window treatments.





What to do in the event of a crib recall:

Check your crib for recalls and sign up for alerts at www.cpsc.gov. Report any problems with your crib or the recall process to the US Consumer Product safety Commission (CPSC) at www.saferproducts.gov.

Recent Sleep Environment Recalls

- Angel Line [Drop Side Cribs](#) (10/22/10)
- Alexander Designs [Drop-Side Cribs](#) (10/7/10)
- Baby Appleseed [Davenport Cribs](#) (8/5/08)
- Baby Matters LLC Nap Nanny [Portable Recliners](#) (7/26/10)
- Bassettbaby [Drop-Side cribs](#) (11/22/10)
- Bassettbaby Wendy Bellissimo Hidden Hills Collection [Cribs](#) (6/5/08)
- Bassettbaby Wendy Bellissimo Collection Convertible [Cribs](#) (11/8/07)
- Bassettbaby Wendy Bellissimo Hidden Hills Collection Drop-Side [Cribs](#) (2/14/08)
- Bexco [Drop Side Cribs](#) (Million Dollar Baby, Baby Mod, DaVinci) (6/24/10)
- Caramia Diana [Drop-Side Cribs](#) (1/14/10)
- C&T, Sorelle [Drop-Side Cribs](#) (5/6/10)
- Child Craft "Crib 'N' Double [Bed](#) " (6/24/10)
- Child Craft [Drop Side Cribs](#) (6/24/10)
- Delta Drop Side [Cribs](#) (6/24/10)
- Delta Enterprise [Drop-Side Cribs](#) (10/21/08)
- Dorel Asia Drop-Side and Non Drop-Side [Cribs](#) (1/19/10)
- Dorel Juvenile Group Eddie Bauer Soothe & Sway [Play Yards](#) (5/13/09)
- Dream on Me Full-Size and Portable Drop-Side [Cribs](#) (5/24/11)
- Ducduc Fix-Sided [Cribs](#) (4/26/11)
- Ethan Allen Drop -[Drop Side Cribs](#) (10/22/10)
- Evenflo Jenny Lind [Drop-Side Cribs](#) (6/24/10)
- Fisher-Price/Simplicity Rainforest Portable [Play Yards](#) (1/15/09)
- Generation 2 Worldwide and "ChildESIGNS" [Drop-Sides](#) (2/9/10)
- Jardine [Drop-Side Cribs](#) (6/24/10)
- Jardine Jardine [Cribs](#) (6/24/08, 1/6/09, 4/30/09)
- Kolcraft Kolcraft Travelin' Tot, Sesame Beginnings, Carter's, Jeep, Contours [Play Yards](#) (9/27/07)
- Kolcraft Kolcraft Travelin' Tot, Carter's, Sesame Street, Jeep, Contours, Care Bear and Eric Carle [Play Yards](#) (7/8/09)
- LaJobi Bonavita Cabana Drop-Side [Cribs](#) (6/9/09)
- LaJobi Bonavita Hudson, Babi Italia Pinehurst Drop-Side [Cribs](#) (6/9/09)
- LaJobi (Graco-branded) Drop-Side [Cribs](#) (4/29/10)
- MammaLittleHelper Infant and Toddler [Hammocks](#) (8/24/10)
- MammaLittleHelper Infant and Toddler [Metal Hammock Stands](#) (8/24/10)
- Mother Hubbards Cupboards [Cribs](#) (8/5/08)
- Munire Majestic Curve Top and Flat Top Cribs , Essex Cribs, Brighton/Sussex Cribs, and Captiva [Cribs](#) (2/28/08)
- Munire Newport Rubbed Black [Cribs](#) (12/23/08)
- NettoCollection Moderne and Loft [Cribs](#) (9/4/07)
- PlayKids USA Convertible [Cribs](#) (10/16/08, 1/29/09)
- Pottery Barn [Drop Side Cribs](#) (7/14/10)
- Pottery Barn Madeline [Bunk Beds](#) (8/3/10)
- PBteen Sleep and Study Loft [Beds](#) (10/5/10)
- Rosebud, Land of Nod [Drop Side Cribs](#) (1/26/11)
- Simmons [Drop Side Cribs](#) (6/24/10)
- Simplicity [Bassinets](#) (8/27/08, 9/11/08, 9/25/08)
- Simplicity Drop-Side [Cribs](#) (9/21/07, 9/17/08, 7/2/09)
- Simplicity Travel Tender [Play Yards](#) (4/7/09)
- Simplicity Full-Size [Cribs](#) (4/29/10)
- SNIGLAR [Crib](#) (2/17/11)
- Sorelle/Simplicity Relabeled Simplicity [Fixed-sided Cribs](#) (9/14/10)
- Stanley Furniture 2nd Nature Built to Grow [Cribs](#) (6/26/08)
- Stork Craft Stork Craft Baby [Cribs](#) (1/13/09, 5/4/09)
- Stork Craft Drop-side [Cribs](#) (11/23/09)
- Suntech Enterprises SunKids Convertible [Cribs](#) (4/2/09)
- Tots in Mind, Inc. Cozy Indoor Outdoor Portable Playard Tents Plus Cabana [Kits](#) (7/15/10)
- Victory Land Group [Drop Side Crib](#) (10/22/10)
- Warning on ALL [Sleep Positioners](#) (9/29/10)

