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## Nursery Product Recalls on the Rise in 2009

If you are expecting a baby, setting up a registry, preparing a nursery, or already have an infant, you need to stay informed about recent nursery product recalls. Newborns and infants are vulnerable to hazards posed by dangerous products. Unsafe sleep environments have been overshadowed by new coverage of lead-tainted toys, but in the past 2 years alone there have been 35 recalls involving more than 5 million full size cribs and other sleep environments including portable cribs, bassinets, and play yards. At least seven babies died in these unsafe units. The good news is that you can take action now to make your nursery a safe place.

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A crib should be thought of as safety equipment. It is a place where the infant is left unattended for hours at a time. However, defective cribs may pose entrapment, fall, and suffocation hazards. Recent crib recalls include the LaJobi [Bonavita Hudson and Babi Italia Pinehurst](#) and [Bonavita Cabana](#) due to defective drop sides and [Jardine](#) models due to wooden slat breakage. Other sleep environment recalls include convertible cribs by [SunTech Kids](#) and play yards by [Dorel Juvenile Group](#) and [Simplicity](#).

Recalls are only one safety issue. Another is the proper crib usage. Remember this rule: **Bare is Best**. The safest sleep environment is a crib with a tight-fitting mattress and sheet with nothing inside but the baby. Soft bedding such as blankets, bumpers, and pillows, as well as sleep positioners and toys should be kept out. If you have older children, be aware of bunk beds recalls including the recent [Gothic Cabinet](#) recall prompted by

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**DON'T LEARN ABOUT RECALLS FROM YOUR BABY**

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*Nursery Product Recalls, Add 1*

insufficient footboards, headboards, and guardrails. Never permit children under age 6 to sleep in the top bunk.

Sleep environments are only one category of children's products. As you prepare your nursery, you will see just how many items are involved in your child's day-to-day care. It is important to stay informed about all children's product recalls. Other child product recalls over recent months include Evenflo [Majestic](#) and [Envision](#) high chairs, [Bugaboo Bee](#) strollers, and [Recaro](#), [Triple Play](#), and [Team-Tex America](#) car seats which fail to comply with federal safety standards.

Thinking about donating a crib or purchasing one at a secondhand store? Cribs are one of the most expensive items, which means people often acquire them as hand-me-downs from relatives or in secondhand stores. Aside from potentially having been recalled, these cribs present their own special hazards including wear and tear from previous use and failure to conform to current safety standards. Refer to KID flyers on [safe donations](#) and [yard sale safety](#) if you are donating, receiving, or buying pre-owned items.

Stay informed about recalls and other safety issues by remembering KID's Three Steps to Safety:

1. **Learn** about the problem. Visit [www.KidsInDanger.org](http://www.KidsInDanger.org) often for updated information and publications. Share this lifesaving information with other parents and caregivers.
2. **Check** your products for recalls. Do an inventory of items used by your children and visit [www.recalls.gov](http://www.recalls.gov). Stay informed by [signing up](#) for KID e-mail alerts.
3. **Act** to keep children safe. Alert family and friends to the danger of unsafe children's products. When available, register products by mail or online. Report products defects, injuries or other problems to both the product manufacturer and [CPSC](#). Tell your elected officials that they must make children's safety a priority.

More information about Kids In Danger and dangerous juvenile products is available at (312) 595-0649 or [www.KidsInDanger.org](http://www.KidsInDanger.org)

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