



Selling second-hand children's products safely



Events over the last several years have shattered public confidence in the safety of products sold in the United States, particularly children's products. The many recalls of dangerous and toxic products – including all those above -- made it clear that the system was broken. Congress answered the call to address these concerns, and on August 14, 2008, President Bush signed into law the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA).

For second hand sellers working to avoid selling dangerous products Kids In Danger (KID) offers these guidelines.

- **Do not sell any recalled products.** [NARTS](#), [CPSC](#) and [Kids In Danger](#) can be resources for stores and individuals to learn to check products for recalls and remove them from the stream of commerce. In some cases a refund, repair kit or replacement product may be available. Sign up for email alerts of recalls at [cpsc.gov](#) to keep your inventory recall-free. (NOTE: The products across the top of the page are all recalled – information on these and thousands more recalled products can be found at [www.CPSC.gov](#).)
- **Avoid selling used cribs, car seats, and bike helmets** as they may not be safe due to involvement in an accident, missing or broken hardware, or not meeting current safety standards. In addition, don't sell walkers, bath seats or sleep positioners as these are not safe for use. Dropside cribs in particular have been found to be unsafe after repeated use and/or assembly and disassembly.
- **Only sell children's metal jewelry, toys, vinyl products, and durable juvenile products such as play yards, strollers, or high chairs that have been certified as meeting current standards.** Alternatively, ask manufacturers for certification if available. Children's jewelry and vinyl products have been found to have high levels of lead in the past.
- **Do not sell or donate items that are broken or missing pieces.** Locking devices, latches, brakes, hardware, and safety restraints should be checked on all items.
- **Include manufacturer information, instructions, or product registration cards**, when possible. These are sometimes available for download from the manufacturer's website. This is very important with juvenile products as a missing screw can cause a fatal entrapment hazard.
- **Remove drawstrings and ties on clothing** such as hooded sweatshirts as these can cause strangulation. If the product is new and has drawstrings – report it to CPSC.
- **To avoid violating the lead limits** in the CPSIA in clothing and other textile products, second hand sellers should **read CPSC's [guidance for second-hand sellers](#)** found at their website, [www.CPSC.gov](#).

Following these guidelines will ensure your products are safe. Contact email@kidsindanger.org for more information or safety brochures for your customers. Kids In Danger is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting children by improving children's product safety. KID was founded in 1998 by the parents of Danny Keyser who was killed in a recalled portable crib.