

Under Revision see DR89148

# Australian Standard 2172—1983

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## COTS FOR HOUSEHOLD USE (SAFETY REQUIREMENTS)



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**STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA**  
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This Australian standard was prepared by Committee CS/3, Safety Requirements for Children's Furniture. It was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 16 August 1983 and published on 7 October 1983.

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The following interests are represented on Committee CS/3:

Australian Consumers' Association  
Australian Council of Furniture Manufacturers  
Australian Federation of Consumer Organizations Inc.  
Australian Retail Furnishers Association  
Australian Retailers Association  
Confederation of Australian Industry  
Department of Home Affairs and Environment  
Department of Consumer Affairs, N.S.W.  
Department of Education, N.S.W.  
Department of Health  
Department of Health, N.S.W.  
Government Stores Department, N.S.W.  
Kindergarten Union of New South Wales Incorporated  
National Council of Women of Australia  
National Safety Council of Australia (Federal Secretariat)  
New South Wales Hospital Planning and Advisory Centre  
Plastics Institute of Australia Incorporated  
Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children  
Sydney Day Nursery and Nursery Schools Association  
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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

# COTS FOR HOUSEHOLD USE (SAFETY REQUIREMENTS)

AS 2172—1983

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## PREFACE

This edition of this standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Safety Requirements for Children's Furniture to supersede AS 2172—1981, Dropside Cots for Domestic Use (Safety Requirements). The scope of the standard has been widened to include all cots for household use (not just those with drop sides) in order to cover the range available on the retail market.

Other related standards include:

- AS 2130 Metal Dropside Cots for Day Nurseries, Hospitals and Institutions
- AS 2195 Folding Portable Cots for Use in Domestic Situations and Day Nurseries
- AS 2196 Carry Cots and Stands

The committee responsible for preparing this standard was hampered to some extent by the inability of the Association's Committee on mattresses to reach agreement on standard mattress sizes. The relationship between the dimensions of the mattress and those of the cot are critical to the safety of the child using the cot. As a result, additional information warning of the potential dangers of using an incompatible mattress with the cot has been specified in both the marking and informative labelling clauses.

The dimensions specified in this standard are the result of a compromise between established practice and the work of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). The latest work of ISO calls for the spacing between filler bars to be not less than 60 mm and not more than 75 mm. The committee could find no evidence of accidents occurring with spaces less than 100 mm. In order to allow many designs of cots currently on the market, which are considered not to pose a danger through entrapment, to continue to meet the standard, the range of acceptable spacings between filler bars has been widened to be not less than 50 mm and not more than 85 mm.

It cannot be overemphasized that cots specified in this standard are intended to be used as places for young children to sleep, in a household situation. The information on accidents related to cots which has been gathered by the committee indicates that the majority of accidents occur when cots are used for purposes for which they were never intended i.e. as playpens, in day nurseries or with older children.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

for

COTS FOR HOUSEHOLD USE (SAFETY REQUIREMENTS)

**1 SCOPE.** This standard specifies requirements for cots relating to the safety and welfare of babies and children, and performance tests to establish the durability of cot construction.

**2 APPLICATION.** The standard is applicable to cots for use in household situations other than folding cots and carry cots. It is not applicable to cradles.

NOTE: Other related standards include the following:

AS 2130 Metal Dropside Cots for Day Nurseries, Hospitals and Institutions (Safety Requirements)

AS 2195 Folding Portable Cots for Use in Domestic Situations and Day Nurseries (Safety Requirements)

AS 2196 Carry Cots and Stands (Safety Requirements).

**3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS.** The following standards are referred to in this standard:

AS 1192 Electroplated Coatings—Nickel and Chromium

AS 1647 Children's Toys (Safety Requirements) Part 3—Toxicological Requirements

AS 1956 Anodic Oxidation Coatings on Aluminium for Decorative and Automotive Applications

**4 DEFINITIONS.** For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions apply:

**4.1 Depth of enclosure**—the vertical distance from the mattress-base frame to the top edge of the lowest enclosure side or end. The distance shall be measured with the access mechanism in the closed position and, if it is possible to adjust the height of the mattress-base frame, it shall be adjusted to its highest position.

**4.2 Filler bars or filler panels**—the vertical rods or bars and panels in the end or side frames of the cot.

**4.3 Access**—a part or parts of the vertical enclosure which may simply be operated to allow access to the enclosure.

**4.4 Access fastening device**—a means by which the access is held in the closed position.

**4.5 Mattress-base frame**—the framework for the mattress seat.

**4.6 Mattress seat**—the filling of the mattress-base frame which supports the mattress.

**4.7 Dropside**—the side panel of a cot, so constructed and incorporated into the cot that it can slide up and down in a vertical plane.

**4.8 Dropside mechanism**—the system of guide bars, slides or other devices which allows the dropside to move up and down in a vertical plane.

**5 DESIGN.**

**5.1 Dimensions.** The following dimensions relating to the safety of babies and children shall apply:

(a) Depth of enclosure ..... 600 mm min.

(b) Space between filler bars ..... 50 mm min.  
85 mm max.

(c) All gaps and spaces accessible from within the enclosure tested in accordance with the method described in Appendix A, shall be either—

(i) sufficiently large as to allow a sphere of 50 mm diameter to pass through but not allow a sphere of 95 mm diameter to pass through; or

(ii) sufficiently small as to not allow a sphere of 30 mm diameter to pass through.

(d) Space between the mattress-base frame and bottom rail of dropside or end frames measured horizontally (see Fig. 1) ..... 15 mm max.

(e) When the access mechanism is in the closed position the side and ends of the enclosure shall extend down to the level of the mattress-base frame (see Fig. 1).

NOTE:

1. It is important that adequate visibility of the child within the enclosure be maintained.

2. The minimum depth of enclosure of 600 mm is based on a maximum mattress thickness of 100 mm. A mattress which is thicker than 100 mm will require a corresponding increase in the depth of the enclosure.

**5.2 Cross members.** There shall be no cross-bars or detailed decoration between filler bars.

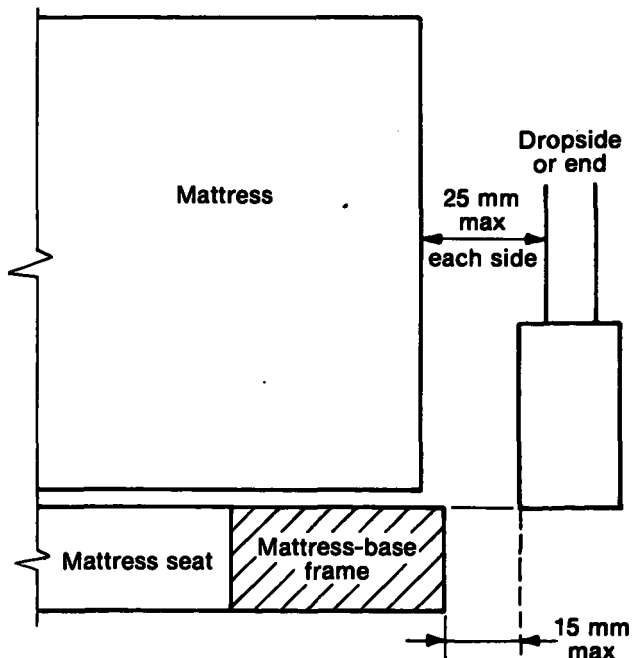


Fig. 1. DIMENSIONS BETWEEN MATTRESS-BASE FRAME AND COT SIDES AND ENDS