

DUP  
Under Revision See DA 94243

Superseded by AS/NZS 2172:1995

AS 2172—1991

Australian Standard®

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**Cots for household use (safety requirements)**

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA



This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee CS/3, Safety Requirements for Children's Furniture. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 5 November 1990 and published on 28 March 1991.

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The following interests are represented on Committee CS/3:

Australian Federation of Consumer Organizations  
Business and Consumer Affairs, N.S.W.  
Confederation of Australian Industry  
Department of Health, N.S.W.  
Department of Public and Consumer Affairs, S.A.  
Federal Bureau of Consumer Affairs (Commonwealth)  
Furniture Manufacturers Association of Australia  
Kindergarten Union of New South Wales  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Vic.  
National Council of Women of Australia  
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Retail Traders Association of Australia  
Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children  
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**Cots for household use (safety requirements)**

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First published as AS 2172—1978.  
Second edition—1981.  
Third edition—1983.  
Fourth edition—1991.

## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Safety Requirements for Children's Furniture, under the direction of the Consumer Standards Advisory Board, to supersede AS 2172—1983, Cots for household use (safety requirements).

This edition differs from the earlier editions in that it includes additional requirements that were considered necessary in light of information obtained about the use and reasonable abuse of children's cots. Further, this edition includes pictorial representations of the various components of a cot which make the requirements more readily understood.

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## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

### Australian Standard Cots for household use (safety requirements)

**1 SCOPE** This Standard specifies safety requirements for cots. These requirements include those such as material, design, construction, and performance, all of which are important for the well-being of children who use cots. The Standard is applicable to cots for use in household situations other than folding cots and carry cots. It is not applicable to cradles.

#### 2 REFERENCED AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

**2.1 Referenced documents** The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

1192 Electroplated coatings—Nickel and chromium

1647 Children's toys—Safety requirements

1647.1 Part 1: General requirements

1647.2 Part 2: Constructional requirements

1647.3 Part 3: Toxicological requirements

1647.4 Part 4: Flammability requirements

1789 Electroplated coatings—Zinc on iron or steel

1956 Anodic oxidation coatings on aluminium for decorative and automotive applications

2196 Carry cots and stands (safety requirements)

2281 Flexible cellular polyurethane for seat cushioning and bedding

**2.2 Related documents** Attention is drawn to the following related documents:

AS

2130 Metal dropside cots for day nurseries, hospitals and institutions (safety requirements)

2195 Folding portable cots for use in domestic situations and day nurseries (safety requirements)

**3 DEFINITIONS** For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions below apply.

NOTE: All definitions apply to fully-assembled cots.

**3.1 Access**—opening obtained by operation of a part or parts of a cot in order to facilitate accessibility to the inside of the cot (see Figure 1).

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

**3.3 Base, mattress**—the surface on which the cot mattress is supported.

**3.4 Effective depth of cot**—the minimum vertical distance between the top of the mattress and the top edge of the lowest cross-side or end when the access is closed.

NOTE: See Clause 3.1 for the definition of access.

**3.5 Dropside**—a component of a cot, so constructed and incorporated into the cot that it can slide up and down in order to close off or provide access.

NOTE: See Clause 3.1 for a definition of access.

**3.6 Dropside mechanism**—a system of guide-rods, slides or other devices including stops, which allows the dropside to slide up and down.

**3.7 Vertical bars or filler panels**—the vertical bars or panels in the end or side frames of the cot.

**3.8 Gap**—an opening bounded either by solid components of the cot (see A in Figure 2) or by solid components of the cot and a straight imaginary boundary joining solid components in such a manner as to result in a maximum bounded area (see B in Figure 2).

#### 4 MATERIALS

**4.1 Timber** Timber used in cots shall—

- not contain splinters, loose knots, compression failures, pith or reaction wood; and
- be free from decay and insect attack.

NOTE: It is recommended that the moisture content not exceed 15%.

**4.2 Metals** All metal components, including springs, nuts, bolts, and washers, shall be either made of corrosion-resistant material or be protected against corrosion.