

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Cots for household use—Safety requirements



AS/NZS 2172:2013

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee CS-003, Safety Requirements for Children's Furniture. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 5 March 2013 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 4 April 2013.
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Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
Australian Industry Group
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Consumers Federation of Australia
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Kidsafe
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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee CS-003, Safety Requirements for Children's Furniture, to supersede AS/NZS 2172:2010.

The objective of this Standard is to provide regulatory authorities with essential safety requirements and to provide manufacturers with functional, durability, stability and performance criteria to meet these safety requirements, in order to reduce the likelihood of deaths or injuries to children.

This edition updates requirements in the light of experience gained through implementation of the Standard and further consideration of overseas developments associated with the integrity of cot drop-sides. Testing for the drop-side and its mechanisms has been revised, with separate tests for the drop-side strength, and the fastening and mechanism strength being introduced.

Reference has also been made to a new test method (AS/NZS 8811.1) developed by Committee CS-003 to assess the firmness of the infant sleep surface to minimize the risk of infant asphyxiation on an overly soft surface.

The term 'normative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard.

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FOREWORD

Committee CS-003 places great emphasis on mattress size and in particular mattress thickness. The decision to allow adjustable base cots in the Standard has made this dimension all the more significant.

It is significant to maintain a minimum distance between the top of the mattress and the top of the lowest side or end of the cot to minimize the risk of a child climbing or falling out of the cot. It is also significant to design an adjustable base cot so the top of the drop side remains at least 250 mm above the mattress base when the base is in the upper position.

The minimum vertical distances specified between the top of the mattress base, i.e. with no mattress, and the top edge of the lowest cot side or end, are based on the use of a mattress 100 mm thick. A mattress thicker than 100 mm will require a corresponding increase in the vertical distance to compensate.

Marking and labelling requirements for adjustable base cots are intended to reinforce the message to parents or carers that the mattress base should be adjusted to the lower position before the child can sit up, and also to warn about appropriate mattress thickness. The marking and labelling should be as clear and conspicuous as possible to achieve its purpose.

The industry has researched mattress sizes and determined that the most common size is 1300 mm × 690 mm.

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1 SCOPE

This Standard specifies safety requirements and test methods for cots. These include material, design, construction, performance, labelling and marking requirements, 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.

This Standard is not applicable to most types of folding cots. Folding cots are covered in AS/NZS 2195, however, timber folding cots or cots made with rigid materials are required in AS/NZS 2195 to comply with all applicable requirements of this Standard. Requirements for cots in day nurseries, hospitals and institutions are given in AS/NZS 2130.

2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

2281 Flexible cellular polyurethane for seat cushioning and bedding

5605 Guide to the safe use of preservative-treated timber

AS/NZS

2130 Cots for day nursery, hospital and institutional use—Safety requirements

2195 Folding cots—Safety requirements

4491 Timber—Glossary of terms in timber-related Standards

AS/NZS

8811 Methods of testing infant products

8811.1 Part 1: Sleep surfaces—Test for firmness

AS/NZS ISO

8124 Safety of toys

8124.1 Part 1: Safety aspects related to mechanical and physical properties

8124.2 Part 2: Flammability

8124.3 Part 3: Migration of certain elements

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 operating a part or parts of a cot to allow easier reach to the inside of the cot (see Figure 1).