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Health Alerts

New safety rules for play yards

Infant and toddler play yard manufacturers and importers are now required to test their products to ensure that they meet new federal safety standards that took effect on Feb. 28.

Play yards must have side rails that do not form a sharp V when the product is folded. Corner brackets must be stronger to prevent cracks and a side-rail collapse. The mattress attachments to the play yard floor must be sturdier to prevent children from

getting trapped or hurt.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that parents check the safety and recall status of their play yards before placing children in them. They also should make sure their child is not heavier than the recommended weight limit. Never leave children in play yards with pillows, loose blankets, hanging toys, and boxes or toys that children can stand on and climb out.