

Safer Products for Your Kids

Tips and Guidelines to Protect Children



Why are toxic chemicals found in products for babies and children?

There is virtually no regulation of toxic chemicals used in most consumer products in the U.S., even those meant for children.

Federal law does not require chemicals to be tested for harmful effects before they are used in everyday products.

Even when dangerous chemicals are found in people and the environment, they aren't banned from use.

Toys: Visit www.healthytoys.org to explore a searchable database of over 1,000 toys that were tested for several toxic chemicals.

Avoid toys that list vinyl or PVC as ingredients. Soft plastic toys like bath toys, squeeze toys, and dolls are commonly made of vinyl. When possible, choose plastic-free toys such as fabric teething, wooden toys (unpainted), and cloth and plush toys. Check whether any toys already at home have been recalled (lists are available at www.cpsc.gov) and return any you have to the manufacturer.

Sippy cups, baby bottles:

Choose products made of safer plastics (polyethylene and polypropylene) such as *Playtex Sipster*, *Avent Magic Cup*, and *Evenflo* pastel bottles. Glass bottles and stainless steel sippy cups are healthy choices.

Lunch boxes: Steer clear of vinyl lunch boxes—choose cloth lunch bags instead.

Clothing and Apparel:

Choose uncoated cotton bibs instead of vinyl bibs. Avoid diaper covers and rain gear made of vinyl (PVC).

Changing pads: Choose wool pads (such as *Holy Lamb Organics* Wool Changing Pad), or portable fabric pads that do not have vinyl linings.

Crib and Child Mattresses:

Choose mattresses made of wool, cotton, or natural latex that don't have vinyl covers. Examples include *Naturepedic's* Twin and Crib Mattresses, and *A Natural Home's* Simply Affordable Organic Crib Mattress.

What's the solution?

Chemicals should be tested for safety before they are used.

Dangerous chemicals should be banned and replaced with only the safest alternatives.

Manufacturers must test and disclose the chemical contents of their products.

Contact your elected officials and let them know that dangerous chemicals shouldn't be allowed in products for children!



Visit SafeStartForKids.org for more information about choosing safer children's products!

Support Washington Toxics Coalition's work to make products safe for our kids!
Call us at 206-632-1545 or visit www.nomoretoxict toys.org for more information.

WASHINGTON
TOXICS
COALITION

4649 Sunnyside Avenue North • Suite 540 • Seattle, WA 98103