



## Australia published new mandatory toy safety standard

On 5 September 2023, the Australian Government published the new safety standard for children's toys. The mandatory standard, the Consumer Goods (Toys for Children up to and including 36 Months of Age) Safety Standard 2023, sets out the requirements for the design and construction of toys for children up to and including 36 months of age. Suppliers have until 4 March 2025 to transition to the requirements of the new mandatory standard.

This safety standard prescribes requirements from the voluntary Australian and comparable overseas standards which seek to minimize the risk of young children choking or suffocating on small parts in toys and therefore preventing serious injury or death. In addition the standard imposes new requirements for battery compartments in toys, which can only be opened with a tool for toys containing any type of battery (coin/button or non-coin/button batteries).

About this children's toy safety standard:

Applicable objects include, but are not limited to:	Not applicable to objects:
rattles, toy dummies, teethingers, and squeeze toys	balloons
toys for attaching to cots, playpens, prams and strollers	marbles
push and pull toys	tapes and CDs
pounding toys	books
blocks and stacking toys	writing materials
bath toys	paints and paint brushes
rocking, spring and stick horses and figures	modelling materials including play dough, clay and plasticine
musical chime toys	bicycles having a wheel base of not less than 640 mm
jack-in-the box	playground equipment for parks, schools and home use
stuffed, plush and flocked animals and figures	goods supplied wholly or partially unassembled that need an adult to assemble them after they're bought, if when assembled according to their supplied written instructions, the goods follow the specified standards
dolls	flotation toys
toys with pompoms	baby dummies
games and puzzles	toys made wholly from highly porous material (such



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	as cheesecloth) – except for toys with pompoms
toy cars, trucks and other vehicles	toys made from certain plastics that are labelled according to the mandatory standard

The new standard, the Consumer Goods (Toys for Children up to and including 36 Months of Age) Safety Standard 2023, prescribed requirements for toys for children aged 36 months and below, the mandatory standard allows compliance with one of the following:

- Australian/New Zealand standard AS/NZS ISO 8124.1:2023 Safety of toys – Part 1: Safety aspects related to mechanical and physical properties; or
- International (ISO) standard ISO 8124 1:2022 Safety of toys – Part 1: Safety aspects related to mechanical and physical properties; or
- European (EN) standard EN 71 1:2014 + A1:2018: Safety of toys – Part 1: Mechanical and physical properties; or
- American (ASTM) standard ASTM F963 17 Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety

In addition, an electric toy must comply with modified requirements of the Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 62115:2018 Electric toys – Safety. The aim is to ensure that kids in this age group cannot open the battery compartment or take out the batteries without the use of a tool. All the other requirements of the Button Batteries Safety Standard<sup>2</sup>, including the requirement relating to compartment fasteners, still apply to all toys for children up to and including 36 months that contain batteries.

Original link: <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2023L01185>

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