

## SAFETY CHECKLIST

- ✓ Make sure your pram or stroller has the safety features required by the mandatory standard.
- ✓ Always use the tether strap provided with your pram or stroller when the parking brake is not engaged.
- ✓ If you don't have a tether strap, ask your supplier about buying one separately.
- ✓ As far as possible, keep the pram or stroller within arm's reach if a child is in it.
- ✓ Make sure the child is secured in the safety harness provided with the product at all times.

## Remember

- ✓ **Prams and strollers are designed to move freely—wear the tether strap when walking and employ the parking brake when the pram or stroller is stationary.**
- ✓ **Make sure your child is restrained in the safety harness to prevent them falling from the pram or stroller.**



### For further information

Publications can be ordered through the ACCC Infocentre or downloaded from the ACCC website.

#### Safety alert brochures:

*Babies dummies*  
*Baby bath aids*  
*Baby walkers*  
*Bunk beds*  
*Blind and curtain cords*  
*Cots*  
*Household furniture hazards for kids*  
*Toys*

#### Safety guides:

*Keeping baby safe*  
*Safe toys for kids*

### ACCC contacts

ACCC Infocentre 1300 302 502

ACCC Indigenous Infoline 1300 303 143

For information in languages other than English, call 131 450 and ask for 1300 302 502.

Callers who are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment can contact the ACCC through the National Relay Service [www.relayservice.com.au](http://www.relayservice.com.au).

TTY or modem users—phone 133 677 and ask for 1300 302 502.

Voice-only (speak and listen) users—phone 1300 555 727 and ask for 1300 302 502.

### [www.accc.gov.au](http://www.accc.gov.au)

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SAFETY ALERT

# Prams and strollers



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# SAFETY HAZARD

## Prams and strollers

Prams and strollers are a convenient way of transporting babies and toddlers and are likely to be used every day by parents and carers of young children.

Infants spend a lot of time in their pram or stroller and so it is vital that these products are as safe as they can be. Injuries suffered by infants in prams and strollers have included wounds to their head or face, crushing injuries and amputations.

In Australia, infants have died when the stroller they were in rolled away from their carer and into hazardous situations.

A new mandatory safety standard for prams and strollers takes effect from 1 July 2008. The standard requires that prams and strollers sold in Australia have a number of safety features, including a warning label, tether strap and parking brake.

## New mandatory standard for prams and strollers

The new mandatory standard includes critical safety features drawn from the Australian/New Zealand Standard for prams and strollers as well as some new requirements.

The standard requires the provision amongst other things of:

- ✔ a tether strap to help carers retain control of prams and strollers
- ✔ a restraint harness to prevent falls
- ✔ a parking brake.

Safe-use warning labels and safety requirements to prevent entrapment are also mandatory.



## How could my child be injured in a pram or stroller?

**Falls**—almost 80 per cent of reported injuries associated with prams and strollers were the result of falls. Falls can occur if the pram or stroller over-balances, or if parts of the pram or stroller break and the product collapses or if the child is not properly restrained.

**Entrapment causing suffocation**—children have died when left to sleep in prams and strollers and have become caught in the structure.

**Crushing injuries**—poor or wrongly engaged latching mechanisms can collapse the pram or stroller, resulting in crush or amputation injuries. Gaps between different parts of the product may entrap infants' heads, arms or fingers.

**'Runaway' hazards**—prams and strollers are designed to move freely. If the product gets away from the user, infants may be seriously injured in falls or collisions that result.

## CAUTION

- ✗ Never balance bags on the handles of the pram or stroller—this could cause it to tip over.
- ✗ Don't let the child stand up in the pram or stroller as this could cause it to tip over.
- ✗ Never leave a sleeping child unsupervised in a pram or stroller.