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CARRY COTS AND STANDS (SAFETY REQUIREMENTS)



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
Incorporated by Royal Charter



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THE FOLLOWING SCIENTIFIC, INDUSTRIAL, CONSUMER AND GOVERNMENTAL organizations and departments were officially represented on the committee entrusted with the preparation of this standard:

Australian Consumers Association
Australian Council of Furniture Manufacturers
Australian Retail Furnishers Association
Confederation of Australian Industry
Department of Health
Health Commission of N.S.W.
Kindergarten Union of New South Wales (Inc.)
National Council of Women of Australia
National Health and Medical Research Council
Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children
Sydney Day Nursery and Nursery Schools Association
Victorian Chamber of Manufactures

This standard, prepared by Committee CS/3, Safety Requirements for Children's Furniture, was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 27 June 1978, and was published on 1 August 1978.

To keep abreast of progress in industry, Australian standards are regularly reviewed. Suggestions for improvements to published standards, addressed to the head office of the Association, are welcomed.

This standard was issued in draft form for public review as DR 74134.

PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Safety Requirements for Children's Furniture. It is one of a series of standards covering dropside and folding portable cots and is based largely on BS 3881, Safety Requirements for Carry Cots, although investigations undertaken by the Australian Consumers Association were taken into account.

Carry cots that comply with this standard are not intended for use in cars in conjunction with the restraining device specified in AS 1754, Child Restraints for Passenger Cars and Derivatives. They are for use as a means of transporting a baby and, in conjunction with a stand, are suitable for use as a cradle in the first few months of a baby's life.

Testing of stands which had been used satisfactorily for many years proved that, because they were designed to eliminate unnecessary bending for the mother, they tended to be less stable sideways than was thought desirable. Two ways of overcoming this were considered. The first was to reduce the height of the stand and the second was to splay the legs. The first solution was considered uncomfortable for the mother and the second increased the risk of someone causing an accident by tripping over the legs. It was therefore decided to follow the British standard in covering this aspect of design. The standard requires manufacturers to include in the instructions for use a recommendation that the carry cot and stand be placed against a wall and, in a household where there are other small children, that a child barrier be placed across the entrance to the room in which the carry cot and stand are used.

Performance tests for the strength of the handles and for the stand are included and dimensions are specified where these relate to the safety and comfort of the baby.

All materials used must be harmless to health.

While ventilation requirements have not been specified, it is recommended that this factor be dealt with by providing ventilation holes in the base of the carry cot and by using linings which allow sufficient passage of air.

It is strongly recommended that in view of the nature of this standard, manufacturers and purchasers should make use of the scheme operated by the Standards Association of Australia (see note Clause 5) whereby the product may bear the certification mark of the SAA.

This standard may require reference to the following standards:

- AS 1176 Methods of Test for Combustion Characteristics of Textile Materials
- AS 1192 Electroplated Coatings of Nickel and Chromium
- AS 1440 Vinyl (PVC) Coated Fabrics for Upholstery and Other Purposes
- AS 1580 Methods of Test for Paints, Varnishes, Lacquers and Related Materials
Method 301.1 Non-volatile Content
- AS K139 Flexible, Unsupported, Thick PVC Sheeting

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

**Australian Standard Specification
for
CARRY COTS AND STANDS
(SAFETY REQUIREMENTS)**

1 SCOPE. This specification sets out the requirements, where these relate to safety, for carry cots and the stands which convert them from carrying devices to cradles. The maximum combined mass of occupant and bedding which carry cots complying with this specification are intended to carry is 9 kg.

NOTES:

1. This specification does not include carry cots for use in cars in conjunction with the restraining device specified in AS 1754, Child Restraints for Passenger Cars and Derivatives.
2. Attention is drawn to the risk of putting articles additional to the baby and its bedding into the carry cot, particularly when the carry cot is used on a stand.

2 DEFINITIONS. For the purpose of this standard the following definitions apply:

Carry cot—a device provided with handles, permanently attached or detachable, in which a baby can be rested and transported. It may also be used on a stand and may be provided with a weather hood and apron.

Non-volatile content—that portion of the paint or tinter as determined by the method laid down in Method 301.1 of AS 1580*.

Soluble—that which is capable of being dissolved by the method described in Appendix B.

3 MATERIALS.

3.1 General. Materials used in the manufacture of carry cots and stands shall be harmless to health. All parts shall be finished smooth and free from sharp edges, burrs and any irregularities that may be potential hazards.

3.2 Carry Cots.

3.2.1 Linings, loose components and trimmings. Linings, loose components and trimmings, other than coated fabrics and unsupported plastics sheeting, when tested by the methods described in AS 1176†, shall comply with the following requirements:

- (a) The ignition time shall be not less than 6 s (see AS 1176, Part 1).

*AS 1580, Methods of Test for Paints, Varnishes, Lacquers and Related Materials, Method 301.1—Non-volatile Content.

†AS 1176, Methods of Test for Combustion Characteristics of Textile Materials.