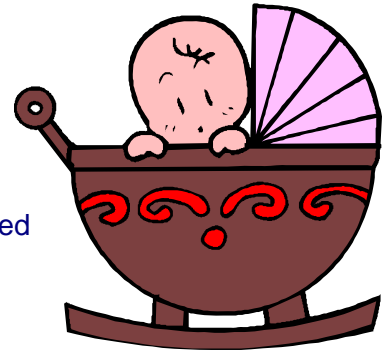


Crib Safety

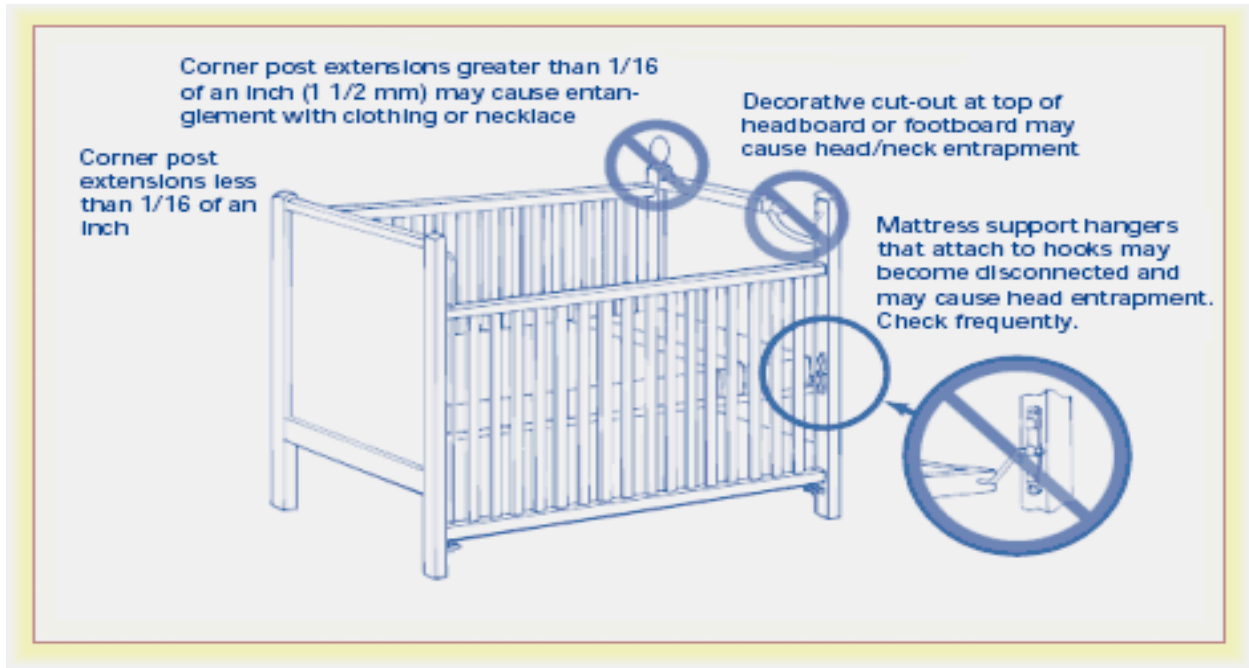
Please click on any of the links below to go directly to your specified topic within this document.



[The Crib](#)
[The Mattress](#)
[Baby Safety](#)
[Consumer Product Safety – Provincial Listing](#)

For your children's safety, only use cribs manufactured after September 1986. Cribs made before this date do not meet current standards and put children at risk. Check for a label affixed to or printed on the crib that shows the date of manufacture. **Do not use** the crib if you do not find the label or if the label indicates a date of manufacture prior to September 1986.

**USING A CRIB MANUFACTURED BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1986
POSES POTENTIAL HAZARDS
WHICH MAY RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURIES,
INCLUDING DEATH.**



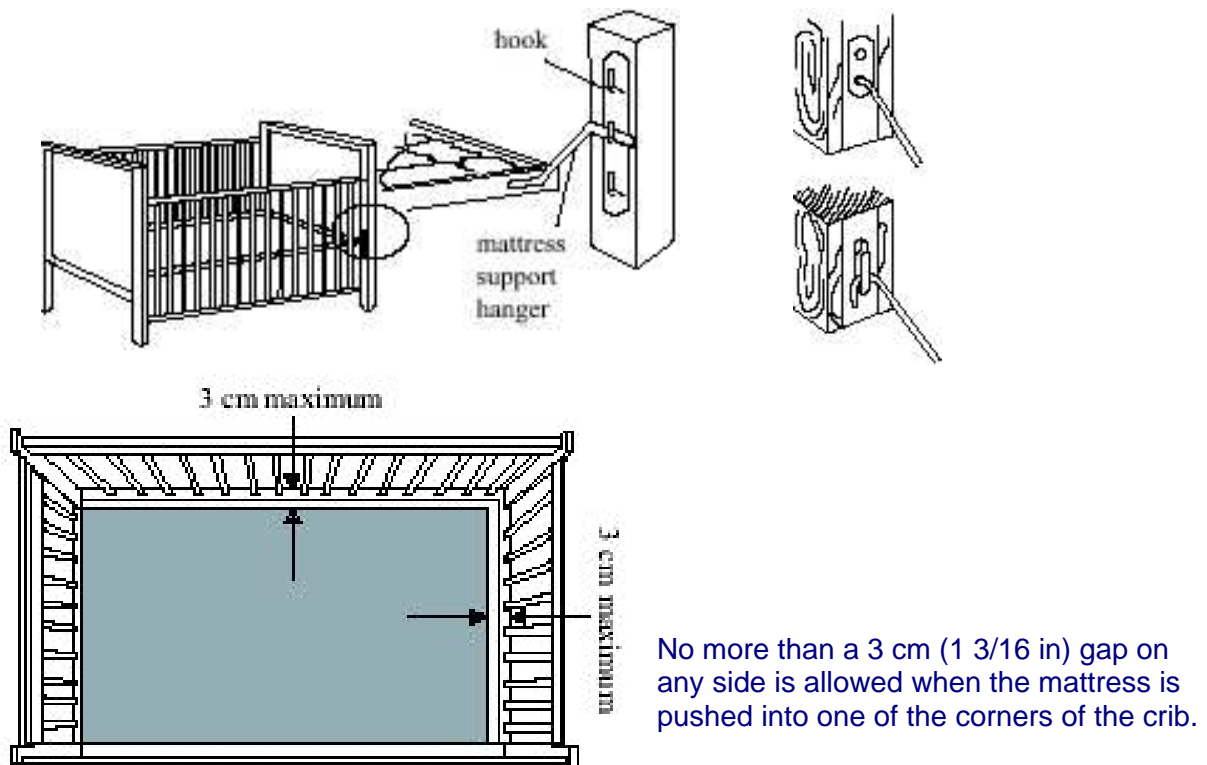
Please use the following guidelines to further ensure that your baby's crib is safe.

The Crib

- ⊗ A label containing the following information must be permanently affixed to the crib:
 - Name and place of business of Canadian manufacturer/ importer;
 - Model name or number;
 - Date of manufacture (year and month);
 - Warning statement about strict adherence to instructions, size of mattress and proper use of product.
- ⊗ Assembly instructions and parts list must be either permanently printed on product or included in a pouch attached to the crib.
- ⊗ Check the crib often to make sure the frame is solid. Tighten loose screws regularly.
- ⊗ Cribs must have a mattress support system that is bolted or secured into the end panel and cannot collapse or become dislodged as a result of normal use. The height of the mattress support should not be adjustable without the aid of tools.
- ⊗ Spaces between the vertical slats should be no more than 6 cm (2-3/8") apart.
- ⊗ The crib must be in good repair, i.e.: no broken, cracked or missing parts, wood smooth and free of splinters, metal free of burrs and sharp edges, no loose bolts or nuts, slats must not be loose or turn when twisted.
- ⊗ Only parts obtained from the original manufacturer must be used for repairs.

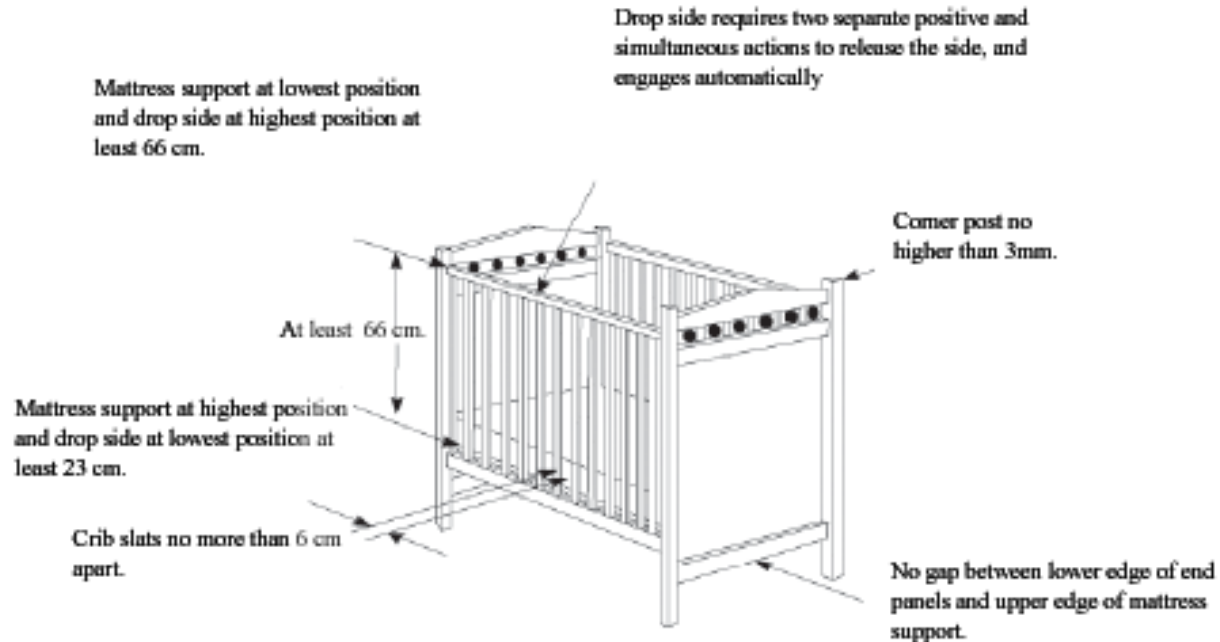
- ⦿ Do not use a crib with mismatched parts.
- ⦿ Crib should not have corner posts which extend more than 3 mm (1/8 in) above the highest side.
- ⦿ Always make sure crib sides are locked in the highest position.

If you have a crib with a mattress support system as shown in the following two figures, it fails to meet the current safety standards and legally, it cannot be sold or even given away.



The Mattress

- ⦿ The mattress should be no thicker than 15 cm (6 inches) and not have a soft surface.
- ⦿ Make sure the mattress is tight against all four sides of the crib.
- ⦿ Replace the mattress if it is not firm or if it is worn-out.
- ⦿ Move the mattress down to its lowest level as soon as the baby can sit up.



Baby Safety

- ⊗ Always make sure crib sides are locked in the highest position.
- ⊗ Never tie the baby in the crib and don't let the baby wear a necklace or a soother on a cord around his or her neck as this poses a strangulation hazard.
- ⊗ Never place a crib in front of a window or within reach of blind or drapery cords. The baby's head could become caught in the cords, resulting in strangulation. Babies develop climbing skills as they grow and may climb onto the window ledge and fall through the window.
- ⊗ Health Canada recommends that soft mattresses, pillows, comforters, stuffed toys and bumper pads should not be used in cribs.
- ⊗ Check blankets and sleepers regularly for loose threads and fix them immediately. Nylon threads can wrap around a baby's finger or neck and cause injury.
- ⊗ Babies should always be supervised around toys and bottles.
- ⊗ Mobiles should not be accessible to the baby.
- ⊗ As soon as a baby is able to sit up:
 - Remove crib exercisers or any toys that are strung across the crib.
 - Place the mattress support at its lowest position. Also, remove large toys that could serve as steps to climb out. Stop using the crib when the baby can climb out.

- To reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), healthy babies should be placed on their back to sleep. Soft mattresses, pillows, comforters, bumper pads and stuffed toys should be avoided. Babies' environment should be kept smoke-free. If a room temperature is comfortable for adults, it is also comfortable for a baby. Babies should be dressed and covered in a manner to avoid overheating, even during an illness.
- Verify the condition of the crib assembly on a regular basis:
 - Check for any loose parts.
 - Ensure that screws and bolts are tight.
 - Prevent cuts and abrasions by removing or changing plastic teething rail covers when cracked or damaged.
- **NEVER** place a baby on a water bed or an air mattress.

If you have any questions after checking the crib, please contact the nearest Consumer Product Safety Office, Health Canada, listed below:

Vancouver, British Columbia
 (604) 666-5003
Bby_Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

Montreal, Quebec
 (514) 283-5488
Quebec_Prod@hc-sc.gc.ca

Edmonton, Alberta
 (780) 495-2626
Edm_Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

Longueuil, Quebec
 (450) 646-1353
Quebec_Prod@hc-sc.gc.ca

Calgary, Alberta
 (403) 292-4677
Cal_Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

Quebec City, Quebec
 (418) 648-4327
Quebec_Prod@hc-sc.gc.ca

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
 (306) 975-4502
Sk_Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

Moncton, New Brunswick
 (506) 851-6638
Atlantic_ProdSafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

Winnipeg, Manitoba
 (204) 983-5490
Mb_Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

Halifax, Nova Scotia
 (902) 426-8300
Atlantic_ProdSafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

Hamilton, Ontario
 (905) 572-2845
Tor_Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

St. John's, Newfoundland
 (709) 772-4050
Atlantic_ProdSafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

Toronto, Ontario
 (416) 973-4705
Tor_Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

Some of the fatalities related to cribs manufactured prior to September 1986 include:

- Babies suffocated after being trapped between a collapsed mattress and the side of the crib.
- Babies suffocated with their head stuck inside the crib, after the body slipped between slats.
- Babies strangled because their clothing caught on corner posts.
- Babies suffocated when crib parts broke or were missing and the child became trapped between the crib's side and the mattress or between the side and the headboard.

Some of the Crib Safety information above was resourced from Health Canada.