

S • THINK • IS  
SAFETY FIRST



# PORTABLECOTS

Office of Fair Trading  
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A portable cot is great for sleepovers and travelling, but should not be used for permanent sleeping arrangements. However, you need to use it correctly to avoid injuries to your child.

**Think safety first** with these helpful tips.

- **Choose a safe model**

Only buy a portable cot that complies with the Australian Standard (AS/NZS 2195). Portable cots by law have to meet mandatory safety standards. Look for the standards label and ask the retailer if you're unsure.

- **Check second-hand portable cots**

If you're buying a second-hand portable cot, make sure that all parts are in good working order and it comes with full instructions for safe assembly and use.

- **Use the right mattress**

Only use the mattress that came with the portable cot. If a mattress doesn't fit snugly, your child could slip into a gap and suffocate. Never put extra mattresses or add extra bedding or toys in the cot. This could increase the risk of your child slipping between the mattress and flexible side and suffocating or getting a foothold to climb out.

- **Lock it into place**

The cot should have two locking mechanisms to prevent accidental collapse and closure. Lock the sides and ends into place before putting your child in the cot and double check the locks are fully engaged.

- **Check the mesh**

Look for any rips in the side or bottom mesh before putting your child in the cot. Don't use it if you find a rip.

- **Check the attachments**

Change tables and bassinets should be fitted correctly and the straps should not be hanging inside the cot. Straps can be a strangulation hazard.

- **Follow instructions**

Always follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully, including all safety warnings. Keep the instructions somewhere safe.

For more information on product safety visit [www.qld.gov.au/fairtrading](http://www.qld.gov.au/fairtrading)