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AS 2172-1978
UDC 645.422.004.4

Revised by AS. 2172-1981.

Australian Standard 2172-1978

DROPSIDE COTS FOR DOMESTIC USE (SAFETY REQUIREMENTS)



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
Incorporated by Royal Charter



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

Associated Chambers of Manufactures of Australia
Australian Consumers Association
Australian Council of Furniture Manufacturers
Australian Retail Furnishers Association
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 29 March 1978, and was published on 1 June 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 74167.

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD SPECIFICATION

**DROPSIDE COTS
FOR DOMESTIC USE
(SAFETY REQUIREMENTS)**

AS 2172—1978

First published 1978

**PUBLISHED BY THE STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
STANDARDS HOUSE, 80 ARTHUR ST, NORTH SYDNEY, N.S.W.**

ISBN 0 7262 1484 1

PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Safety Requirements for Children's Furniture, at the request of the Consumer Standards Advisory Committee, and is one of a number of standards being prepared to cover safety requirements for children's furniture. It is based on AS 2130, Metal Dropside Cots for Day Nurseries, Hospitals and Institutions.

The committee responsible for these standards considered South African Standard SABS 521—1965, Hospital Beds and Cots, Israeli Standard SI 683—1967, Metal Cots for Infants, British Standard BS 1753, Safety Requirements for Children's Wooden Dropside Cots for Domestic Use; and the Canadian Government Regulations covering the advertising, sale and importation of cots. The strength and durability test from the Canadian Regulations has been incorporated in this standard.

Safety aspects covered include the fastening devices for the dropside mechanism and the use of non-toxic materials and coatings.

Dimensions which the committee considered related directly to a child's safety and to the safety and comfort of persons responsible for the care of the child have been specified.

For the benefit of consumers, dimensions for length and width have been recommended to encourage some measure of standardization in the size of domestic cots and cot mattresses. The adoption of these limits should prevent accidents caused by children trapping themselves in the framework or by improper lowering of the cot sides.

Beyond the foregoing, the standard limits design only to the extent of not permitting cross-bars or decoration between the filling bars which could provide a foothold and thus allow a child to climb out of the cot.

Performance tests have been included to prove the strength and durability of any design.

Inner-spring mattresses for children's cots are covered by AS S3, Contents and Dimensions of Inner-spring mattresses and Timber-framed Upholstered Bases for Domestic Use.

This standard may require reference to the following Australian standards:

- AS 1192 Electroplated Coatings of Nickel and Chromium
- AS 1443 Bright Carbon Steel and Carbon-manganese Steel Bars (Metric Units)
- AS 1449 Stainless and Heat-resisting Steel Plate, Sheet and Strip (Coils and Cut Lengths)
- AS 1450 Circular and Non-circular Carbon Steel Tubes for Mechanical and General Engineering Purposes
- AS 1580 Methods of Test for Paints, Varnishes, Lacquers and Related Materials
Method 301.1—Non-volatile Content

- AS 1627 Code of Practice for Preparation and Pretreatment of Metal Surfaces Prior to Protective Coating
Part 6—Phosphate Treatment of Iron and Steel Surfaces
- AS 1647 Children's Toys and Playthings (Safety Requirements)
- AS 1728 Types of Timber Surfaces
- AS 1866 Wrought Aluminium and Aluminium Alloy Extruded Rod, Bar, Solid and Hollow Shapes for General Engineering Purposes
- AS 1867 Wrought Aluminium and Aluminium Alloy Drawn Tubes for General Engineering Purposes
- AS 1956 Anodic Oxidation Coatings on Aluminium for Decorative and Automotive Applications
- AS 1961 Industrial Wheels and Castors (Dimensions and Capacities)
- AS 2098 Methods of Test for Veneer and Plywood
2098.2—Bond Quality of Plywood (Chisel Test)
- AS K88 Synthetic Resin Adhesives for Plywood (Phenolic and Aminoplastic)

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard Specification for DROPSIDE COTS FOR DOMESTIC USE (SAFETY REQUIREMENTS)

1 SCOPE. This specification specifies the requirements for dropside cots relating to the safety and welfare of babies and children, and performance tests to establish the stability and durability of cot construction.

2 APPLICATION. The specification is applicable to metal and timber cots for use in domestic situations.

3 DEFINITIONS. For the purpose of this specification the following definitions apply:

Depth—the measurement vertically from the top of the mattress-base frame to the top of the dropside in its fully raised position.

Dropside—the side panel of the cot, so constructed and incorporated into the cot that it slides up and down in a vertical plane.

Filling bars—the vertical rods or bars and panels in the end or side frames of the cot.

Mattress-base frame—the framework for the mattress seat.

Mattress seat—the filling of the mattress-base frame which supports the mattress.

Non-volatile content—that portion of a paint or tint 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.

4 DIMENSIONS. The following dimensions relating to the safety of babies and children shall apply:

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|--|--------------------------|
| (a) Depth of cot | 600 mm min. |
| (b) Space between filling bars | 60 mm min.
90 mm max. |
| (c) Distance, measured vertically, from the horizontal plane of the mattress-base frame to the lower edges of the side and end frames (see Fig. 1) | 30 mm max. |
| (d) Space between the mattress-base frame and bottom rail of dropside or end frames, measured horizontally (see Fig. 1) | 15 mm max. |

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