

Children's Nightwear

Many Australian children are admitted to hospital after being burned when nightclothes catch on fire. Flimsy, loose-fitting girls' nighties were often involved.

A number of prevention measures, including changes to the Australian Standard for warning labels to be attached to nightwear, have led to a major reduction in injuries.

Children's nightwear must comply with Australian Standard AS 1249:2003 *Children's nightwear and limited daywear having reduced fire hazard*. This Standard specifies design, performance and labelling requirements for four categories of children's nightwear, together with some garments commonly worn both day and night.



Avoid buying or using children's nightgowns made from
100% Chenille or
100% Cotton Flannelette
These materials are highly
Flammable.



Fire Warning Labels

Items covered in the mandatory labelling requirements include styled and recognised nightwear garments such as pyjamas, pyjama-style overgarments, nightdresses, nightshirts, dressing gowns, bathrobes and infant sleeping bags and boxer shorts of a loose style.

Garments must be flammability tested before being labelled. Garments are categorised according to fabric type and burning behaviour.

Low Fire Danger

Garments made with this label are made to be slow burning i.e. they are made from material that is difficult to ignite, such as wool, and some nylon and polyester. Garments are styled to reduce fire danger such as close-fitting tracksuit style and pass stringent restrictions on trim sizing to limit the risk of flames spreading.

High Fire Danger

Garments with the following label pass Australian Standards, but present a higher fire risk. They are not subject to restrictions on styling or trims, and are made with a combination of flammable fabrics.

WARNING

**HIGH FIRE DANGER KEEP
AWAY FROM
FIRE**



Safe Practices

- Give careful thought to what nightwear you buy for your children
- Read labels carefully and avoid garments with “WARNING: HIGH FIRE DANGER: KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE”
- Purchase nightwear labelled “LOW FIRE DANGER”
- Choose close-fitting pyjamas with cuffs around the legs and arms
- If making your own children’s nightwear, look for safety warnings on commercial patterns and fabric
- NEVER let children get too close to a fire or heater



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Fireguards



To prevent your child from receiving burns from home heating devices, or clothes catching fire, *Kidsafe NSW* recommends that all heating devices and especially fireplaces be guarded.

When building or purchasing a fireguard, consider the following points:

The fireguard needs to be stable, non-moveable and not able to fall on a child.

It should be securely attached to the wall behind the heat source.

The guard should be far enough away to prevent a child reaching over or through it to touch the heat source.

The fireguard should be far enough away from the heat source to be cool to touch – minimum 150mm.

It should be high enough to prevent a child reaching, leaning or falling over it – a minimum of 700mm.

The gaps or perforations in the guard should not be able to trap a child’s head or fingers. Large gaps should be no greater than 90mm and not less than 50mm to avoid trapping head and hands. Small gaps should be less than 5mm to avoid trapping fingers.

If the fireguard has a door or gateway to allow adult access to the heat source, ensure that this can be securely locked.

The guard should not be made of material with rough edges that could cut or pierce a child’s skin.

FURTHER INFORMATION



NSW Fair Trading
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NSW



Fire Brigade
Contact your local fire station
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