## **Bunk bed safety**

Bunk beds can be dangerous. Many children have been badly hurt or killed in bunk beds. This happened when their head got caught between parts of the bed or from falling.

Make sure bunk beds are safe. Teach children how to use them safely. The top bunk is not safe for children under 6 years of age.



## Safety Tips

- Make sure the top bunk has guard rails on all four sides of the bed.
- Make sure the mattress fits tightly against all four sides of the bed.
- Check regularly to make sure the frame of the bed is sturdy.
- The ladder should be attached securely to the bed.
- Look for a label that indicates that the bunk bed meets the safety standards.
- Health Canada recommends that bunk beds meet the safety requirements of American standards (ASTM F-1427-96, and 16 CFR, Parts 1213, 1500 and 1513). Ask before you buy.

## Children's Safety:

- Never allow a child under 6 years of age on the top bunk.
- Allow only one person on the top bunk.
- Teach children to always use the ladder to get up or down.
- Do not allow children to play on or under bunk beds.
- Keep the area around the bed clear of clothes and toys.

## For more information, contact Product Safety, Health Canada, at:

Vancouver, British Columbia (604) 666-5003 Edmonton, Alberta (780) 495-2626 Calgary, Alberta (403) 292-4677 Saskatoon, Saskatchewan (306) 975-4502 Winnipeg, Manitoba (204) 983-5490 Hamilton, Ontario (905) 572-2845 Toronto, Ontario (416) 973-4705 Ottawa, Ontario (613) 952-1014 Montreal, Quebec (514) 283-5488 Longueuil, Quebec (450) 646-1353 Quebec City, Quebec (418) 648-4327 Moncton, New Brunswick (506) 851-6638 Halifax, Nova Scotia (902) 426-8300 St. John's, Newfoundland (709) 772-4050

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