



Pack-n-Play Safety Guidelines

Prepared by the Health & Safety Specialists at Child Care Aware® of North Dakota

How to prepare and set up a pack-n-play:

- Make sure the pack-n-play is not recalled. Check www.cpsc.gov for updates.
- Read the manufacturer's instructions before assembly and use of the pack-n-play
- Pack-n-plays made after February 28, 2013, are required to meet new federal standards.
- Frame should be structurally sturdy.
- Frame should lock in place on all four sides.
- Mesh weave should be less than ¼" and free from tears/holes.
- Only use the pad made by the manufacturer of the pack-n-play. No other pad is allowed.
- Corners of the pad should meet in all four corners of the frame.
- Pad should be flat and maintain its shape. It should not buckle/fold.
- Always use the Velcro/snap straps provided by the manufacturer to secure the pad.
- Keep area under pad clean and check bottom for rips/tears.
- Check pad frequently to make sure wood panels in the pad aren't broken or haven't shifted.
- Use properly fitting fitted sheets. Flat sheets, sheets that are too big (ex. crib sheets), or sheets that are too small are not allowed.
- Pad must maintain shape (lay flat and meet all four corners of the frame) when fitted sheet is used. If pad cannot lay flat, use it without a sheet.
- No pins should be used to secure sheets.
- Nothing can be attached to the pack-n-play or hung on the sides (ex. mobile, toys, blanket, etc.).

- Make sure that nothing is in reach within 3 feet of a child when he/she is in the pack-n-play. Examples: monitor cords, blinds, bi-fold closet doors (pinching hazard), etc.
- Enclosures/covers/tents for pack-n-plays are not allowed.
- Pack-n-play should not be used if a child is able to climb out.
- Follow manufacturer's weight and height guidelines for use.
- Bassinet inserts are not allowed.
- Changing pads provided by the manufacturer that attach to the pack-n-play cannot be used.

How to clean a pack-n-play when a pad is used without a sheet:

- Pad should be cleaned with soap and water weekly or before it is used by a different child.
- Don't saturate the pad with soap and water- lightly spray and wipe or use a damp cloth.
- If the pad is soiled with poop, urine, vomit, or blood, then the pad should be disinfected. Clean pad with soap and water, then spray with disinfectant.
- Disinfectant should be EPA registered. Follow the manufacturer's instructions regarding proper use of the disinfectant.
- It is important to clean pad with soap and water after using disinfectant to remove any residue on the pad.
- Make sure the pad is completely dry before using.

How to determine if a pack-n-play is safe to use:

- If the frame is unstable/loose or mesh is torn, the entire pack-n-play needs to be replaced.
- If there is a problem with the pad, contact the manufacturer for a replacement pad for the specific model. If a replacement pad is not available from the manufacturer of the pack-n-play, the entire pack-n-play needs to be replaced. Replacement pads made by other companies or for other models are not approved for use.