

CONSUMER ALERT

Removal of Item from Market

As of December 19, 2005

The Consumer Affairs Commission (CAC), wishes to advise the public that a particular type of stroller is being sold to unsuspecting consumers and has serious defects that could endanger the safety of their child.

The strollers are being sold within a price range of (\$3,000.00 - \$3,300.00) Three Thousand and Three Thousand Three hundred Dollars. These strollers are of a "NO BRAND" type and do not bear a manufacturer's tag.

Anyone who has purchased this item is advised the item has been removed from the market. Purchasers are to return the item to the vendor at the point of purchase for a FULL REFUND or call the CAC at 926-1650-2.

The CAC is asking consumers to be vigilant especially about the items they purchase for children. Stroller safety begins with getting the right one in the first place but there are several guidelines to buying a SAFE STROLLER. Here are some tips published by TODAY'S PARENT magazine:

1. Check the manufacturer's height and weight recommendations, especially if your toddler is bigger than average. This is usually

attached to the back or seat of the stroller with a “DO NOT REMOVE” tag which also bears the bar code and item serial number.

2. Look for a stroller harness with a strap that goes around your child’s waist and another that goes between his legs. A five-point harness, which includes straps over the shoulder, is even better. Make sure the lap belt or harness is solidly attached to the frame of the stroller.
3. Evaluate the stroller’s stability. A wider base is less likely to tip over.
4. The lightweight umbrella strollers are less stable than full-size strollers, but even the full-size strollers may not have all the safety features.

Make sure the brakes work and are easy to use.

5. **Be sure the stroller locks easily and securely into the open position so that it doesn’t fold up with your toddler inside.**
6. Look for an under-the-seat basket where you can tuck a diaper bag or a blanket. This will reduce the temptation to hang things over the back.
7. Choose a stroller with a canopy to help protect your child from the sun.
8. Be careful when buying second-hand strollers. **Check with the manufacturer for recalls on that model, and examine the stroller thoroughly for sharp edges, wheels that are coming loose, etc.**
If you are buying a jogging stroller, the CAC suggests taking extra precautions.

TP magazine suggests that jogging strollers should not be used for babies younger than 12 months because the ride is too jarring for an infant's developing spine. If you must, choose one with a deep seat, five-point harness and a wrist strap that keeps the stroller attached to you. Toddlers in jogging strollers should always wear a properly fitted certified bicycle helmet.

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