



# CPSC Safety Alert

## Infant Cushions are Banned

The U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) banned infant cushions in 1992 that had been involved in 36 infant suffocations.

There are five essential features that define the infant cushions of concern. The cushions:

- have soft fabric coverings;
- are loosely fitted with a granular material such as plastic foam beads or pellets;
- are easily flattened to create a nest so that the infant lies prone on them;
- are capable of conforming to the face or body of an infant; and
- are intended or promoted for use by children under one year of age.

Of these features, the key characteristic that probably contributes most to deaths is the ability of the cushions to conform to an infant's face or body.

Almost all of the incidents reported to CPSC involved children lying in a prone, stomach-down position. In all but two of the incidents, the infant was less than four months old.



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