

	U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission	Issue Date: August 17, 2026
	Lab Bulletin for CPSC-recognized Consumer Product Testing Laboratories	Number: CPSCCLB-01-2026
Subject: Testing to the Safety Standard for Infant Support Cushions under 16 C.F.R. Part 1243		

Overview

On November 4, 2024, the Commission published a final rule establishing a Safety Standard for Infant Support Cushions (Standard) under section 104(b) of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008. The Standard, which became effective on May 5, 2025, is published in the Code of Federal Regulations at 16 C.F.R. part 1243. The Standard establishes performance requirements, test methods, and labeling requirements to promote the safer use of infant support cushions and reduce the risk of death and injury, particularly falls and suffocations, when an infant support cushion is used by an infant.

Topics of Concern

This bulletin¹ seeks to clarify the scope of the Standard, by explicitly identifying the inclusion of playmats, pads, and mats. Specifically, this bulletin clarifies that playmats, pads, and mats that are marketed, designed, or intended to support an infant's weight or any portion of an infant while reclining or in a supine, prone, or recumbent position and are filled with or comprised of resilient material such as foam, fibrous batting, or granular material or with a gel, liquid, or gas, are subject to the requirements of the Standard.

The provisions of concern are addressed as follows:

- 1) **Pads and mats (one example depicted in the images below) are subject to the requirements of the Standard.**



This image of a pad/mat is AI generated and is not a real-world pad/mat product.

¹ This communication has been prepared for general informational purposes only and is based upon the facts and information presented. This communication does not, and is not intended to, constitute legal advice and has not been reviewed or approved by the Commission and does not necessarily represent its views. Any views expressed in this communication may be changed or superseded by the Commission.

- a. Pads and mats are used to support an infant for activities such as tummy time and play time. As infants grow and develop, they may periodically transition to and from rolling, sitting, and crawling; however, a pad or mat is commonly used to support an infant's weight as they reach, grasp, kick, and bat at toys placed on the pad or mat in a supine position, or engage in tummy time in a prone position.
- b. Therefore, pads and mats are subject to the requirements of the Standard if they are marketed, designed, or intended to support an infant's weight or any portion of an infant while reclining or in a supine, prone, or recumbent position and are filled with or comprised of resilient material such as foam, fibrous batting, or granular material or with a gel, liquid, or gas because they meet the definition of an infant support cushion as defined in the Standard.

2) Playmats (one example depicted in the images below) are subject to the requirements of the Standard.



This image of a playmat is AI generated and is not a real-world playmat product.

- a. Playmats are used to support an infant for activities such as tummy time and play time. As infants grow and develop, they may periodically transition to and from rolling, sitting, and crawling; however, a playmat is commonly used to support an infant's weight as they reach, grasp, kick, and bat at hanging overhead toys in a supine position, or engage in tummy time in a prone position.
- b. Therefore, playmats are subject to the requirements of the Standard if they are marketed, designed, or intended to support an infant's weight or any portion of an infant while reclining or in a supine, prone, or recumbent position and are filled with or comprised of resilient material such as foam, fibrous batting, or granular material or with a gel, liquid, or gas, because they meet the definition of an infant support cushion as defined in the Standard.

3) The Standard does not provide an exemption for thin products.

- a. The test method in § 1243.5(f) explains that all products, including products one inch or less in thickness, shall be tested.