

LEAD IN CONSUMER PRODUCTS WORKSHEET



Background: Certain children's products made in other countries and imported to the U.S. are known to have a higher risk of containing lead, including metal toy jewelry and children's tea sets made from pottery. In 1978, the U.S. banned lead in house paint, on products marketed to children, and in dishes or cookware, but **other countries still widely use lead paint, even on toys they import to the U.S.** Antique toys and collectibles and older toys made before the ban may also be lead-containing. The use of lead in plastics has not been banned so certain plastic toys made with vinyl/PVC (e.g., bath books, teething rings, rubber ducky, bath toys, dolls, beach balls, backpacks, pencil cases, shower curtains) may contain lead.

Food and liquids stored or served in lead-glazed pottery or porcelain can become contaminated because lead can leach from these containers into the food or liquid. Lead may also be present in certain herbal remedies, folk medicines, and imported spices and foods. The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has found lead in some art supplies.

You cannot see, smell, or taste lead in these consumer products. When children put a lead-contaminated object in their mouths, they can suffer seriously from lead poisoning, leading to behavior and learning problems, lower IQ, hyperactivity, slowed growth, hearing problems, and anemia (when your blood lacks enough healthy red blood cells). There is no safe level of lead exposure. To help protect against these risks, the U.S. CPSC has protections in place that ban the use of lead in many children's products and issues recalls of lead-contaminated toys.

You can stay up to date on product recalls by regularly visiting the CPSC website: www.cpsc.org.

Instructions: To reduce potential exposures to lead in consumer products, fill out the worksheet below once a year and keep it in your family handbook for your records. Follow each step below to find out whether lead is in the consumer products you keep in your child care home.

Date this form was completed: _____

WE SCREEN OUR TOYS AND CHILDREN'S TOY METAL JEWELRY FOR LEAD BY SEARCHING WWW.CPSC.GOV.

We do not recommend using "test-it-yourself" kits or lead wipes (often purchased online or from large home improvement stores) when trying to detect lead containing toys or products. Only a certified laboratory can accurately test toys and products for lead contamination. Kits and wipes do not show how much lead is present, and their reliability at detecting low levels of lead has not been established.

Date of toy/jewelry screen:

- WE DO NOT COOK OR SERVE FOOD OR LIQUIDS USING IMPORTED, OLD, OR HANDMADE POTTERY. WE ALSO DO NOT ALLOW CHILDREN TO PLAY WITH CHILDREN'S PLAY TEA SETS MADE FROM IMPORTED POTTERY.



- WE DO NOT HAVE COSTUME OR METAL JEWELRY AND/OR CHARMS.



- WE KEEP METAL KEYS OUT OF CHILDREN'S REACH.



- WE DO NOT HAVE ANTIQUE TOYS.



- WE AVOID TOYS OR OTHER ITEMS MADE OF PVC/VINYL (E.G., BATH BOOKS, TEETHERS, RUBBER DUCKY, BATH TOYS, DOLLS, BEACH BALLS, BACKPACKS, PENCIL CASES, RAIN JACKETS, RAIN BOOTS, AND SHOWER CURTAINS). WE GET RID OF TOYS WHEN THEY SHOW SIGNIFICANT SIGNS OF WEAR.



- WE WASH TOYS WEEKLY.

If there's lead in the plastic toy, the break down of the plastic may cause lead-contaminated dust on the toy.

- WE GET RID OF TOYS WHEN THEY SHOW SIGNIFICANT SIGNS OF WEAR.

Toys that are worn may have a greater risk of lead exposure.

Date of removal:

- WE DO NOT GIVE CHILDREN IN OUR CARE IMPORTED CANDY. WE ALSO DON'T OFFER CHILDREN IN OUR CARE HERBAL REMEDIES OR FOLK MEDICINES.



For information about lead in food, food-wares, and dietary supplements, visit the [U.S. Food and Drug Administration](#).

WE REMOVED ANY CPSC-RECALLED TOYS OR OTHER ITEMS OF CONCERN.

Note: If recalled or other potentially lead-contaminated consumer products are discovered, follow the recommendations provided in any recall or other notice about the product. Such notices generally recommend returning the lead-contaminated products to the manufacturer. If returning the item is not feasible, then dispose of these items in your household trash. (Family residences are exempt from federal hazardous waste regulations even if the product could be classified as a hazardous waste.) State and local governments may have additional requirements for disposal of these items in trash. Consult your state and local government for more information. Do not donate items that contain or could contain lead to Goodwill or other donation drop-off facilities, as another family may end up using these unsafe and contaminated products.

Date of removal:

WE USE ONLY FRAGRANCE-FREE NONTOXIC ART SUPPLIES CERTIFIED BY THE ART AND CREATIVE MATERIALS INSTITUTE (ACMI). LOOK FOR ACMI NONTOXIC "AP" SEAL AT WWW.ACMIART.ORG



RESOURCES ON LEAD IN CONSUMER PRODUCTS:

- CDC Lead in Toys web page (this webpage contains information on lead in paint on toys and lead in plastic toys): <https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/tips/toys.htm>.
- EPA's Lead in Toys and Toy Jewelry web page: <https://www.epa.gov/lead/lead-toys-and-toy-jewelry>
- EPA's Management of Recalled Toys and Other Children's Products Pursuant to the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act:
<https://archive.epa.gov/epawaste/hazard/web/html/index-40.html>
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Toy Jewelry webpage:
<https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/tips/jewelry.htm>

* Always contact your local health department or primary health care provider if you think there may be lead in or around your child care home. DON'T TRY TO REMOVE LEAD-BASED PAINT YOURSELF. Disturbing lead-based paint or removing lead improperly can increase the hazard to your family by spreading even more lead dust around the house. Families should also have their children tested if they suspect they have been exposed to lead.

**Always check your local and state child care licensing regulations to make sure you are in compliance.