



## **Labeling Requirements for Children's Products**

This guide provides U.S. importers with an overview of the requirements for choking hazards and tracking labels on children's products.

# CHOKING HAZARD LABELING

## Related Regulations:

Consumer Product Safety Act of 2008 (CPSIA)  
Federal Hazardous Substances Act

## Applies to:

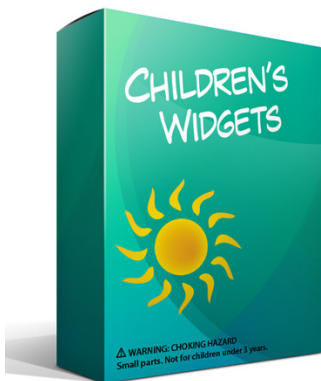
U.S. importers and manufacturers

## Products affected:

Toys and games which are intended for use by children 12 and under, and which are/contain small parts, balloons, small balls, or marbles.

## Summary

The Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 and Federal Hazardous Substances Act require product packaging and certain advertisements for toys and games intended for use by children 12 and under to display appropriate cautionary statements regarding choking hazards.



An example of a compliant choking hazard label on a children's product.



Close-up of the choking hazard label.

## If the toy or game...

Contains small parts and is intended for children at least 3 years old but under 6 years then it must be labeled:

**⚠ WARNING: CHOKING HAZARD -**  
Small parts. Not for children under 3 yrs.

Is a ball with a diameter of 1.75 inches (44.4mm) or less and is intended for children 3 years or older then it must be labeled:

**⚠ WARNING: CHOKING HAZARD-**  
This toy is a small ball. Not for children under 3 yrs.

Contains a small ball and is intended for children at least 3 years old but under 8 years then it must be labeled:

**⚠ WARNING: CHOKING HAZARD-**  
Toy contains a small ball. Not for children under 3 yrs.

Is/contains a latex balloon and is intended for children 12 and under then it must be labeled:

**⚠ WARNING: CHOKING HAZARD-**  
Children under 8 yrs. can choke or suffocate on uninflated or broken balloons. Adult supervision required. Keep uninflated balloons from children. Discard broken balloons at once.

Is a marble and is intended for children 3 years or older then it must be labeled:

**⚠ WARNING: CHOKING HAZARD-**  
This toy is a marble. Not for children under 3 yrs.

Contains a marble and is intended for children at least 3 years old but less than 8 then it must be labeled:

**⚠ WARNING: CHOKING HAZARD-**  
Toy contains a marble. Not for children under 3 yrs.

# TRACKING LABEL REQUIREMENTS

## Related Regulations:

Consumer Product Safety Act of 2008 (CPSIA)

## Applies to:

U.S. importers and manufacturers

## Products affected:

Products intended for use by children 12 and under

## Summary

The Consumer Product Safety Act of 2008 requires manufacturers and importers of products intended for use by children 12 and under to place permanent distinguishing marks (tracking labels) on products within scope.

The purpose of tracking labels is to enhance recall effectiveness and product traceability in the event of a safety recall, as well as help consumers identify whether a product they own is subject to a safety recall.

This provision requires that these marks or labels allow both manufacturers and end users (typically consumers) of those products to ascertain:

- name of the manufacturer, importer, or private labeler
- city, country, and date of manufacture
- specific information such as lot, run, or batch number

## How to comply

If your product is not a children's product, no tracking label is required.

1. Apply a full permanent label or distinguishing mark to the product with all of the following information:
  - name of the manufacturer, importer, or private labeler
  - city, country, and date of manufacture
  - detailed information on the manufacturing process, such as a batch/run number or other identifying characteristics
  - any other information that facilitates ascertaining the specific source of the product
2. Ensure that the label/distinguishing mark is visible and legible.



*An example of a children's product box with a compliant tracking label. The Consumer Product Safety Commission does not specify formatting, placement, or size requirements for tracking labels.*

## What if I can't mark my product in this way due to its shape, size, etc.?

Contact the Consumer Products Safety Commission for guidance.

## What is the date of production for purposes of the tracking label?

Products may not always be made in a single day. Therefore, the date of production could be a range of dates if the product is made over a period of time. When the product is a group of disparate components or items assembled together or gathered into one package, the Commission interprets the date of manufacture to mean the date of assembly or placement into one package.

## See also

[www.cpsc.gov/en/Business-Manufacturing/Business-Education/tracking-label/](http://www.cpsc.gov/en/Business-Manufacturing/Business-Education/tracking-label/)