

Important news for parents and caregivers, please forward this information on:

119 reported deaths in bath seats, including one in new design



Recent statistics from the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), shows 119 reported deaths in baby bath seats since 1991. These products are still sold in stores, despite this death toll. New bathseats to meet new voluntary standards are now reaching the market. However, one of these seats has already been involved in a death. In addition to old design flaws that allow the seat to tip or the baby to slide down through the leg openings; the bath seats, no matter their design, give caregivers a false sense of security. Many caregivers assume it is a safety aid, when nothing could be further from the truth. This increases the likelihood that more water will be used to fill the tub and that a caregiver may leave the room. When bathing an infant or toddler, the caregiver must always keep the baby within arm's reach. [KID <http://www.kidsindanger.org/04v1/prodhazards/recalls/bath.asp>](http://www.kidsindanger.org/04v1/prodhazards/recalls/bath.asp), along with the [Consumer Federation of America <http://www.consumerfed.org/102003_babybath.html>](http://www.consumerfed.org/102003_babybath.html), the [Danny Foundation <http://dannyfoundation.org/safety_bathseats.shtml>](http://dannyfoundation.org/safety_bathseats.shtml) and other advocates, believe the bath seat should be banned from sale.

Product Hazards

Infant Bathtub Seats and Rings

Drowning is the third leading cause of accidental death in the U.S., and children under the age of five are at increased risk.

Children can slip out of the seats into the water and become submerged.

The suction cups on the bottom of a seat can detach from the tub, and the baby can tip over and become trapped underwater by the seat.

In addition to hazards such as suction cups that can detach, bath seats give parents a false sense of security.

These products are intended as bathing aids - NOT SAFETY DEVICES.

It only takes a few seconds of time and as little as one inch of water for an infant to drown.

Most manufacturers have quit making them.

- [independent reports on the safety of bath seats <http://www.cpsc.gov/LIBRARY/FOIA/Foia99/os/bathseat.pdf>](http://www.cpsc.gov/LIBRARY/FOIA/Foia99/os/bathseat.pdf)
- [numerous FOIA incident reports involving bath seats <http://www.cpsc.gov/LIBRARY/FOIA/Foia99/idi/babbth8.pdf>](http://www.cpsc.gov/LIBRARY/FOIA/Foia99/idi/babbth8.pdf)
- [and a recent petition submitted by Kids In Danger and other consumer advocates requesting the banning of baby bath seats. <http://www.cpsc.gov/BUSINFO/frnotices/fr00/babybath.pdf>](http://www.cpsc.gov/BUSINFO/frnotices/fr00/babybath.pdf)

<http://www.cpsc.gov/LIBRARY/FOIA/FOIA02/pubcom/Babyseat.pdf> to read KID's comments on the CPSC's recent proposed rulemaking on baby bath seats and rings