

ICS

English version

Classification of toys - Guidelines

This CEN Report was approved by CEN on 10 November 2001. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 52.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

Management Centre: rue de Stassart, 36 B-1050 Brussels

Contents

Introduction	3
1 Scope	3
2 Stages of development	3
3 Toys for children under and over 36 months	4
4 Indicators for products not considered as toys	14
4.1 Introduction	14
4.2 Indicators: a toy versus not a toy	14
4.3 "Early learning products".....	15
Annex A (informative) Explanation of stages of the development of children	16
A.2.1 The development from 0 - 18 months	16
A.2.2 The development from 18 - 36 months	17
A.2.3 The development from 3 - 7 years	17
A.3.1 Introduction	18
A.3.2 The sensorimotor stage (0 - 2 years)	19
A.3.3 The pre-operational stage (2 - 7 years)	19
A.3.4 The concrete operational stage (7 - 12 years)	19
Index - Toy and toy category	22
Bibliography	24

List of tables

Table 1 – Stages of development
Table 2 – Activity toys (Category A)
Table 3 – Aquatic toys (Category B)
Table 4 – Art and craft materials and related articles (Category C)
Table 5 – Audio/visual equipment (Category D)
Table 6 – Books with play value (Category E)
Table 7 – Construction toys and puzzles (Category F)
Table 8 – Costumes, disguises and masks (intended to imitate) (Category G)
Table 9 – Dolls and soft filled toys (Category H)
Table 10 – Experimental sets (Category I)
Table 11 – Functional toys (Category J)
Table 12 – Game sets (Category K)
Table 13 – Mechanical and/or electrical driven vehicles (Category L)
Table 14 – Play scenes and constructed models (Category M)
Table 15 – Projectile toys with a launching device (Category N)
Table 16 – Push-along toys, pull-along toys and walking aids (Category O)
Table 17 – Role-playing toys (Category P)
Table 18 – Sand-water toys (Category Q)
Table 19 – Skill development toys (Category R)
Table 20 – Toy cosmetics (Category S)
Table 21 – Toy musical instruments (Category T)
Table 22 – Toy sports equipment and balls (Category U)
Table 23 – Toys for babies for looking at, grasping and/or squeezing (Category V)
Table 24 – Toys intended to bear the mass of a child (Category W)
Table 25 – Toys intended to be entered by a child (Category X)

Introduction

This document (CR 14879:2002) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 52 "Safety of toys", the secretariat of which is held by DS.

CEN/TC 52 "Safety of toys" decided in November 1998 to develop a document on classification of toys giving guidelines for matching toy characteristics to children's ages.

Manufacturers, importers, surveillance authorities and test laboratories have an interest in a classification.

This document should be read in conjunction with:

EN 71-1, *Safety of toys - Part 1: Mechanical and physical properties*
 EN 71-2, *Safety of toys - Part 2: Flammability*
 EN 71-3, *Safety of toys - Part 3: Migration of certain elements*
 EN 71-4, *Safety of toys - Part 4: Experimental sets for chemistry and related activities*
 EN 71-5, *Safety of toys - Part 5: Chemical toys (sets) other than experimental sets*
 EN 71-6, *Safety of toys - Part 6: Graphical symbol for age warning labelling*
 EN 71-7, *Safety of toys - Part 7: Finger paints - Requirements and test methods* (under preparation)
 EN 71-8, *Safety of toys - Part 8: Swings, slides and similar activity toys for indoor and outdoor family domestic use* (under preparation)
 EN-IEC 50088, *Safety of electric toys*
 EN-IEC 61558, *Safety of power transformers, power supply units and similar*

1 Scope

This document is intended to be used in conjunction with the standards for safety of toys and gives guidelines for deciding which toys are intended for children under 36 months of age and which toys are not intended for such children.

The document is a broad guideline and further study is required to determine whether a particular toy is appropriate for a given age.

In addition, this document gives clarification on items that are not considered as toys.

Explanation of stages of the development of children is given in Annex A together with background information and considerations concerning safety of toys.

NOTE: Only toys that on account of their function, dimensions, characteristics, properties or other cogent grounds are manifestly unsuitable for children under 36 months do not require a warning in the context of annex IV.1 of the Toy Safety Directive.

2 Stages of development

To be able to classify toys for children under and over 36 months it is important to understand children's development stages, particularly within the 0 - 36 months age group. A rationale for this is given in Annex A and a summary is given in table 1.