
Industry Guide to Children's Jewellery

June 18, 2013

Health Canada is the federal department responsible for helping the people of Canada maintain and improve their health. We assess the safety of drugs and many consumer products, help improve the safety of food, and provide information to Canadians to help them make healthy decisions. We provide health services to First Nations people and to Inuit communities. We work with the provinces to ensure our health care system serves the needs of Canadians.

© Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, represented by the Minister of Health, 2013

Également disponible en français sous le titre :
Guide sur les bijoux pour enfants à l'intention de l'industrie

Table of contents

Introduction	2
Legislation.....	2
Requirements under the <i>Canada Consumer Product Safety Act</i> and its regulations	3
<i>Children’s Jewellery Regulations</i>	3
Definition.....	3
Requirement	3
Good laboratory practices	4
<i>Surface Coating Materials Regulations</i>	4
Proposed guidelines for cadmium in children’s jewellery	4
Background on heavy metals in children’s jewellery.....	5
Lead	5
Cadmium.....	5
What is “jewellery”?.....	6
What is “children’s jewellery”?	6
Examples of children’s jewellery	8
Analytical methods for determining lead content in children’s jewellery	11
Information resources	11
Contact information – Health Canada Consumer Product Safety Offices	13

Introduction

This document provides information about the safety requirements that apply under the *Canada Consumer Product Safety Act (CCPSA)* and under the *Children's Jewellery Regulations* to children's jewellery that is manufactured, imported, advertised or sold in Canada.

Additionally, this document will explain how this legislation applies to the lead content of children's jewellery; define children's jewellery and help identify which products fall within the scope of the legislation; and specify the analytical test methods used for children's jewellery.

This document is an unofficial summary of the safety requirements for children's jewellery under the *Children's Jewellery Regulations*. It is not intended to substitute for, supersede or limit the requirements under the applicable legislation. In case of any discrepancy between this summary and the legislation, the legislation will prevail. For further information, contact one of the Health Canada Consumer Product Safety Offices listed at the end of this document.

This document may be updated from time to time. For the most recent version, consult [Reports and Publications](#).

Legislation

The *Canada Consumer Product Safety Act (CCPSA)*, which has replaced Part I and Schedule I to the *Hazardous Products Act (HPA)*, addresses dangers to human health or safety posed by consumer products in Canada.

Any person who manufactures, imports, advertises, sells or tests a consumer product must comply with all applicable requirements of the CCPSA and its regulations. For example, the Act sets out requirements for preparing and maintaining documents and for mandatory incident reporting (see below for further details). Regulations under the Act set out product-specific requirements, such as performance-based standards, test methods and labelling.

Schedule 1 of the CCPSA lists consumer products to which the CCPSA does not apply. Examples of these products are explosives, cosmetics, drugs, natural health products, food, medical devices and ammunition. These products are addressed by other legislation.

Health Canada's Consumer Product Safety Program works closely with partners and stakeholders in administering the CCPSA to help protect Canadians from product-related hazards and to promote the safe use of consumer products.

In addition to the product-specific requirements noted in this document, it is prohibited to manufacture, import, advertise or sell any consumer product that is a "danger to human health or safety" as defined in the CCPSA (see paragraphs 7(a) and 8(a)).

Any person who manufactures imports or sells a consumer product for commercial purposes **must** inform Health Canada and, if applicable, the person from whom they received the product, of any incidents related to the product (see section 14 of the CCPSA and *Guidance on Mandatory Incident Reporting under the Canada Consumer Product Safety Act - Section 14*

Duties in the Event of an Incident).

Furthermore, the CCPSA requires any person who manufactures, imports, advertises, sells or tests a consumer product for commercial purposes to prepare and maintain certain documents. Good record keeping practices aid in the retrieval of information and help ensure that appropriate documents are available when required for supply chain analysis (see section 13 of the CCPSA and *Guidance on Preparing and Maintaining Documents under the Canada Consumer Product Safety Act - Section 13*).

Compliance and enforcement actions taken by Health Canada, with respect to non-compliance with the requirements of these pieces of legislation, may include, depending on the applicable legislation: seeking voluntary commitments to product correction by industry, negotiation with industry for the voluntary removal of these products from the market, seizure, referral for orders for recall or other measures, administrative monetary penalties and referral for prosecution.

Requirements under the *Canada Consumer Product Safety Act* and its regulations

Under the *Canada Consumer Product Safety Act* (CCPSA), the *Children's Jewellery Regulations* and *Surface Coating Materials Regulations* regulate the importation, advertisement or sale in Canada of children's jewellery items which contain lead. The regulations set limits on lead content in order to protect children from toxicity associated with lead exposure.

Children's Jewellery Regulations

Definition

The *Children's Jewellery Regulations* define children's jewellery as:

Jewellery that is manufactured, sized, decorated, packaged, advertised or sold in a manner that appeals primarily to children under 15 years of age but does not include merit badges, medals for achievement or other similar objects normally worn only occasionally.

See page 9 for examples of children's jewellery.

Requirement

Children's jewellery, when tested using good laboratory practices, must not contain more than 600 mg/kg of total lead and no more than 90 mg/kg of migratable lead¹.

Both the total lead limit **and** the migratable lead limit must be met.

¹ Migratable lead is the amount of lead which is released from a product when it is brought into contact with a liquid solvent.

Good laboratory practices

“Good laboratory practices” means practices that are in accordance with the principles set out in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development’s (OECD) document entitled OECD Principles of Good Laboratory Practice, Number 1 of the OECD Series on Principles of Good Laboratory Practice and Compliance Monitoring, ENV/MC/CHEM(98)17, the English version of which is dated January 21, 1998 and the French version of which is dated March 6, 1998. (For a link see “Information resources”, on page 12 of this guide.)

The *Children’s Jewellery Regulations* permit the importation, advertising or sale in Canada of children’s jewellery that does not contain more than 600 mg/kg of total lead and more than 90 mg/kg of migratable lead in any component. The lead content limits apply to all accessible components of children’s jewellery items, whether metallic or non-metallic, including glass and crystal components.

A component is considered accessible if it is exposed to direct contact with the hands or mouth or if there is potential for the component to become exposed under reasonably foreseeable handling by a child. Jewellery components such as beads, chains and clasps, which are sold separately, either individually or in kits, rather than as a finished jewellery item, must also meet the requirements of the *Children’s Jewellery Regulations*.

An item is considered compliant only if **all** accessible components meet **both** lead limit requirements.

Many jewellery items are covered with a decorative or protective coating. The material under the coating is considered accessible for the purposes of the *Children’s Jewellery Regulations*, since such coatings are easily removed if the item is sucked, chewed or swallowed, or through normal wear and tear.

The *Children’s Jewellery Regulations* do not restrict the lead content of jewellery intended for adults or children aged 15 years or older. However, industry is encouraged to avoid the use of lead in all jewellery items.

Surface Coating Materials Regulations

Section 7.2 of the *Surface Coating Materials Regulations* limits the lead content of applied paints and other surface coatings on children’s articles to 90 mg/kg of total lead. Children’s jewellery items are considered children’s articles. Therefore, any paints or other surface coatings materials on children’s jewellery would be subject to the limit of 90 mg/kg of total lead under section 7.2.

Proposed guidelines for cadmium in children’s jewellery

Health Canada has proposed a guideline for cadmium content in children’s jewellery which would limit total cadmium to 130 mg/kg.

In October 2010, Health Canada appealed to members of industry to voluntarily stop the manufacture, importation and sale of children's jewellery made with cadmium or cadmium-containing materials.

In July 2011, Health Canada posted a draft risk assessment report for stakeholder consultation proposing a guideline limit for total cadmium concentration in children's jewellery of 130 mg/kg. Based on our risk assessment, jewellery containing cadmium below this level is not considered to pose a risk of acute toxicity following ingestion or of chronic toxicity from daily mouthing of jewellery by small children.

Background on heavy metals in children's jewellery

Lead and cadmium are potentially toxic heavy metals often found in children's jewellery. Although there are no known risks to health from simply wearing jewellery containing lead or cadmium, there are serious, potentially fatal risks, from ingesting large amounts of lead or cadmium. Young children, under four years of age, are at a greater risk of injury due to their natural habit of putting non-food items into their mouths.

Lead

Lead is often used in making children's jewellery because it is inexpensive and easily molded. It has a sweet taste that may encourage children to chew or suck on lead-containing jewellery.

If ingested, lead can affect the nervous system and is especially harmful to children. Recent studies suggest even small amounts of lead in the body can cause learning and behavioural problems in children. At high levels of exposure, lead can cause seizures, coma and death. Since lead builds up in the body, ongoing exposure to even very small amounts of lead can result in large amounts of lead being present in the body.

It has been demonstrated, with tragic consequences, that swallowed jewellery may become lodged in the stomach, leading to the release of large amounts of lead in certain cases.

Several cases of lead poisoning in children have been linked to children's jewellery containing lead. In 2006, a child from the United States died of lead poisoning after swallowing a children's charm with a high lead content.

Cadmium

The health concerns surrounding lead in children's jewellery have raised similar concerns of cadmium exposure from children's jewellery. Ingested cadmium has been associated with renal, hepatic, cardiovascular, hemotological, neurological, reproductive/developmental and immunological effects.

Since the regulation of lead limits in children's jewellery, Health Canada has found high levels of cadmium in various items of children's jewellery in the Canadian marketplace, suggesting that cadmium may be increasingly substituted for lead in certain low-cost children's jewellery.

Cadmium in children’s jewellery has been detected at levels up to 93%.

If ingested, there may be serious health effects. Although no reported incidents of cadmium poisoning were found following ingestion of jewellery, it is considered this may pose a threat analogous to lead.

What is “jewellery”?

For purposes of the *Children’s Jewellery Regulations*, an item of jewellery is considered to be any decorative item intended for regular wear on the body or on clothing or clothing accessories. This includes some items which might not ordinarily be described as jewellery, such as zipper pulls and shoelace charms.

Functional items like watches and hair clips, and functional components of clothing and accessories such as buttons and belt buckles, are not considered as jewellery, **unless** they are designed or marketed in a way which clearly indicates that their primary purpose is decorative. However, components of clothing fasteners and hair ornaments which are purely ornamental, such as charms and beads, are subject to the lead content limits of the *Children’s Jewellery Regulations*.

What is “children’s jewellery”?

Children’s jewellery is defined in section 1 of the *Children’s Jewellery Regulations* as “jewellery that is manufactured, sized, decorated, packaged, advertised or sold in a manner that appeals primarily to children under 15 years of age.”

For the purposes of the *Children’s Jewellery Regulations*, jewellery items shall be considered as appealing primarily to children under 15 years of age if, for example:

- The jewellery item, or of one or more of its components, is manufactured with a “play value,” making it likely that the item will be perceived or used as a play item. Examples include:
 - a necklace with a flashing light

Any toy components must meet all applicable requirements of the *Toys Regulations*. If the design of a product or product component clearly indicates that it could be used either as a toy or for regular wear as a jewellery item, the product or product component must meet the requirements for both jewellery **and** toys.

- The jewellery is decorated with figures, logos or designs which are primarily associated with products aimed at children. Examples include:
 - characters from movies marketed for children
 - characters from public information programs marketed toward children

- characters associated with video games marketed toward children
- The size and/or design of the jewellery item make it unlikely that an adult would regularly wear it. Examples include:
 - ring with band too small to fit an average adult finger
- The price and/or quality of the jewellery item are low enough to make it unlikely that an adult would be given the item or choose it for themselves.
- The jewellery item is labelled and/or packaged in a way which would appeal primarily to children or which would suggest that the product is intended primarily for children. Examples include:
 - packaging which includes illustrations of logos or characters associated primarily with children's products
 - packaging which includes images of children,
 - labelling or packaging which includes the word "kid's," "for children" or similar
 - packaging which includes text or images intended to or likely to appeal mainly to children
- The jewellery item is advertised in conjunction with another product intended primarily for use by a child or in caring for a child. Examples include:
 - jewellery distributed with a child's high chair or stroller
- The jewellery item is advertised in conjunction with or as a part of television, video, radio or other programming aimed primarily at children under 15 years or in printed material targeted primarily at children under 15 years. Examples include:
 - "prizes" distributed inside cereal boxes or other packaged foods
 - advertisements aired during or immediately before or after a television show which is primarily targeted at a child audience
- The jewellery item is advertised or sold in conjunction with, as an attachment to, or packaged together with another product intended for use by a child or for use by an adult in caring for or entertaining a child. Examples include:
 - jewellery items sold together with a child's dress
 - jewellery items attached to a book, video game or DVD aimed at children under 15 years of age

A jewellery item worn by a doll or plush toy would normally be classified as a toy, rather than as children's jewellery, unless the jewellery item was clearly intended primarily for

wear by a child. Components classified as toys must meet all applicable requirements of the *Toys Regulations* made under the *Canada Consumer Product Safety Act (CCPSA)*.



- The jewellery item is advertised, displayed or sold on premises which market exclusively or mainly children’s products, or in a section of a store or other premises² where other children’s items are sold, advertised or displayed.
- The jewellery item is sold at an entertainment, educational or sporting event which is marketed towards or likely to be attended by children under 15 years of age.
- The jewellery item is sold or distributed through premises or under circumstances which would result in the presence of large numbers of children or in which children are the primary marketed target. Examples include:
 - schools or daycare centers
 - cinemas screening children’s or family rated movies
 - trade shows for products intended for use by children or for adults in caring for children
- The jewellery item is sold in a vending machine located in an area accessible to children.

This list is not intended to be all-inclusive. Jewellery items will be classified on a case-by-case basis taking into account all relevant factors.







For assistance on classifying specific jewellery items, please contact the nearest Health Canada Consumer Product Safety Office (see list on page 14 of this document).





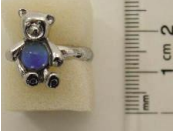

Examples of children’s jewellery

The following are examples of children’s jewellery and the rationale for their classification.

<p>Animal brooch</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • design appeals primarily to a child
<p>Birthstone ring</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • very low cost • small size of band • displayed with other children’s items <p>(This item would not be classified as children’s jewellery based on the design alone.)</p>

² For the purposes of enforcing the *Children’s Jewellery Regulations*, ‘premises’ are considered to include vehicles, kiosks, street stands and any other place where or from which jewellery items are displayed, advertised, distributed or sold.

<p>Bracelet with apple and heart charms</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • packaging child-appealing (decorated with fairies and angels) • displayed in children's section • low price and quality
<p>Butterfly pendant</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • design • packaging • very low cost • displayed with other children's jewellery items
<p>'Canada' pendant necklace</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • displayed with other children's items • very low cost and quality
<p>Hairclips</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • design appeals primarily to children • packaging appeals primarily to children and includes the words 'Kids Club'
<p>Headband with feathers and tiara</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • design appeals primarily to a child • product intended for play • low cost and quality
<p>Metallic charms on plastic wristbands</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • design appeals primarily to a child • very low cost • small size of the wristband

<p>Mood ring</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • novelty products • displayed with other children's products • low price and quality
<p>Mood stone bracelet</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • novelty item • displayed with other children's items
<p>Pendant on cord</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • item sold in a vending machine in an area accessible to children • design and colours
<p>Set of toe rings</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • very small size; could be worn as child's finger ring
<p>Teddy bear ring with mood stone</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • teddy bear design appeals primarily to a child • small size of ring band
<p>Turtle pendant sold for use in jewellery-making classes</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lower age limit for jewellery-making class was 12 years

(Note: only the ornamental components of the hairclips, for example, bunny face and ladybug, are subject to the *Children's Jewellery Regulations*.)

Analytical methods for determining lead content in children's jewellery

Industry is responsible for making sure their products comply with the *Children's Jewellery Regulations*. Health Canada does not specify or recommend any particular analytical methods to test jewellery for lead content. However, any methods used to test the lead content of jewellery for the purpose of assessing compliance with the *Children's Jewellery Regulations* must comply with Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Principles of Good Laboratory Practice, Number 1 of the OECD Series on Principles of Good Laboratory Practice and Compliance Monitoring, ENV/MC/CHEM(98)17 (see "Information resources" on page 12 of this document).

Any digestion methods, as well as any analytical instruments, that allow the determination of total and migratable content in jewellery items are acceptable provided that control-certified materials and standards are used to monitor the quality of the results.

In conducting enforcement of the Regulations, Health Canada uses the following test methods to determine total and migratable lead, and total cadmium, in jewellery:

- CO2.2 Determination of Total Lead in Surface Coating Materials in Consumer Products
- CO2.3 Determination of Total Lead in Polyvinyl Chloride Products by Closed Vessel Microwave Digestion
- CO2.4 Determination of Total Lead and Cadmium in Metallic Consumer Products
- CO8 Determination of Migratable Lead in consumer products

These test methods may be ordered from Health Canada's website (see "Information resources" on page 12 of this document).

Information resources

NOTICE: For further information, contact a Health Canada Consumer Product Safety Office (refer to the list at the end of this document) or visit the following:

Canada Consumer Product Safety Act

www.laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-1.68/index.html

Children's Jewellery Regulations

www.laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2011-19/index.html

Draft Proposal for Cadmium Guidelines in Children's Jewellery

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/legislation/consultation/2011cadmium/draft-ebauche-eng.php

Surface Coating Materials Regulations

www.laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2005-109/index.html

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Principles of Good Laboratory Practice

www.iris-pharma.com/download/Principles-on-GLP.pdf

Test methods used by Health Canada to determine total and migratable lead in jewellery

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/prod-test-essai/method-chem-chim-eng.php

Consumer Product Safety (CPS)

www.healthcanada.gc.ca/cps

Reports and Publications for Industry and Professionals

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/pubs/indust/index-eng.php

To find out more about the *Canada Consumer Product Safety Act*

www.healthcanada.gc.ca/ProductSafety

Canada Consumer Product Safety Act Quick Reference Guide

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/pubs/indust/ccpsa_ref-lcspc/index-eng.php

To subscribe for email updates about the *Canada Consumer Product Safety Act*

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/legislation/acts-lois/ccpsa-lcspc/_subscribe-abonnement/index-eng.php

Guidance on Mandatory Incident Reporting under the Canada Consumer Product Safety Act - Section 14 Duties in the Event of an Incident

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/pubs/indust/2011ccpsa_incident-lcspc/index-eng.php

Report an Incident Involving a Consumer Product

www.healthcanada.gc.ca/reportaproduct

Guidance on Preparing and Maintaining Documents under the Canada Consumer Product Safety Act (CCPSA) - Section 13

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/legislation/pol/doc_13-eng.php

Contact information – Health Canada Consumer Product Safety Offices

To reach the Regional Product Safety Office nearest you see the information below or call toll-free (within Canada and the United States) at 1-866-662-0666.

Regional Consumer Product Safety Offices	Locations in the United States that these offices serve	Other continents that these offices serve
<p>British Columbia Regional Product Safety Office Suite 400 4595 Canada Way Burnaby, British Columbia V5G 1J9 Phone: 604-666-5003 Fax: 604-666-5988 Bby.Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca</p>	<p>Alaska California Hawaii Nevada Oregon Washington</p>	<p>Asia</p>
<p>Alberta, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut</p>		
<p>Edmonton Regional Product Safety Office c/o Suite 730, Canada Place 9700 Jasper Avenue Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4C3 Phone: 780-495-2626 Fax: 780-495-2624 Alberta.Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca</p> <p>Calgary Regional Product Safety Office Suite 674, Harry Hays Building 220 – 4th Avenue South East Calgary, Alberta T2G 4X3 Phone: 403-292-4677 Fax: 403-221-3422 Alberta.Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca</p>	<p>Arizona Colorado Connecticut Idaho Maine Massachusetts Montana New Hampshire New Mexico New Jersey Ohio Pennsylvania Rhode Island Utah Vermont Wyoming</p>	<p>Africa Australia New Zealand Pacific Islands</p>

Regional Consumer Product Safety Offices	Locations in the United States that these offices serve	Other continents that these offices serve
<p>Saskatchewan Regional Product Safety Office Room 412 101 – 22nd Street East Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 0E1 Phone: 306-975-4502 Fax: 306-975-6040 Sk.Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca</p> <p>Manitoba Regional Product Safety Office 510 Lagimodiere Boulevard Winnipeg, Manitoba R2J 3Y1 Phone: 204-983-5490 Fax: 204-984-0461 Mb.Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca</p>	<p>Arkansas Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Louisiana Michigan Minnesota Missouri Nebraska New York North Dakota Oklahoma South Dakota Texas Wisconsin</p>	<p>Central America Bermuda Caribbean South America</p>
Ontario		
<p>Toronto Regional Product Safety Office 2301 Midland Avenue Toronto, Ontario M1P 4R7 Phone: 416-973-1748 Fax: 416-973-1746 Tor.Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca</p> <p>Hamilton Regional Product Safety Office 55 Bay Street North, 9th Floor Hamilton, Ontario L8R 3P7 Phone: 905-572-2845 Fax: 905-572-4581 Tor.Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca</p>		

Quebec		
<p>Longueuil Regional Product Safety Office 1001 St-Laurent Street West Longueuil, Quebec J4K 1C7 Phone: 514-283-5488 Fax: 450-928-4066 Quebec.Prod@hc-sc.gc.ca</p> <p>Quebec Regional Product Safety Office 902-1550 D'Estimauville Avenue Quebec, Quebec G1J 0C5 Phone: 418-648-4327 Fax: 418-649-6536 Quebec.Prod@hc-sc.gc.ca</p>		
Atlantic Provinces		
<p>New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island</p> <p>Regional Product Safety Office Suite 1625, 1505 Barrington Street Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3Y6 Phone: 902-426-8300 Fax: 902-426-6676 Atlantic.Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca</p>	<p>Alabama Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia Kentucky Maryland Mississippi North Carolina South Carolina Tennessee Virginia West Virginia</p>	<p>Europe</p>
<p>National Capital Region Consumer Product Safety Directorate 269 Laurier Avenue West A.L.: 4909A Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9</p>		