



# ***Information Kit on Cot Testing (Household Cots, Folding Cots and Bassinets)***

## **1. Introduction**

The purpose of this document is to provide:

- information on minimum legal requirements and relevant product definitions
- information about current cot testing and certification options
- information about transitional cot certifications
- details of what's involved in an assessment
- a brief outline of: who we are, what product certification is, costs (including an outline of the general cost structure for testing families of cots having mainly common features), payment, timing, freight and what you get.

In our experience over many years, most manufacturers find that the first product they submit for assessment has a number of problems. The second and subsequent models submitted by a supplier usually have far fewer problems. This suggests that suppliers who think their products comply and who rely on their own assessments may be exposed to prosecution along with their distributors and retailers.

## **2. Minimum legal requirements and product definitions**

In July 2024 the federal government introduced the *Consumer Goods (Infant Products) [Information](#) and [Safety Standards 2024](#)* (the **new requirements**). Although these are new mandatory requirements, they don't come into full effect until **January 19, 2026**.

The requirements apply to 'infant products' and 'infant sleep products'. Household Cots, Folding Cots and Bassinets fall within its scope (although they are only a subset of the full range of products covered by it).

Prior to July 2024 there were already existing mandatory requirements for Household Cots and Portable Folding cots (the **old requirements**).

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## Furntech-AFRDI Testing Information Kit – Cot testing

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Products that meet these requirements are **still legally compliant**, but only until **January 19, 2026**. The period between July 2024 and January 19 2026 is the '**transitional period**'. In the transitional period legal minimum requirements can be met by either compliance with the new requirements **or** the old requirements.

In regard to Bassinets, the question is moot as to whether or not they fall within the mandatory requirements for Household Cots in effect prior to July 2024. They are, however, explicitly included as a distinctive product category in the new requirements which come into effect in January 2026.

**bassinet** means an infant sleep product with free standing legs that is designed to provide an enclosed sleeping facility for an infant who cannot yet push up on hands or knees or sit up unaided.

**folding cot** means an infant sleep product that is designed to provide an enclosed sleeping facility that can be folded or collapsed, without disassembly, when not in use.

**household cot** means an infant sleep product with raised sides and ends that is designed to provide an enclosed sleeping facility, other than a bassinet or a folding cot.

**the transitional period** means the time up to the 19<sup>th</sup> of January 2026, after which the *Consumer Goods (Infant Products) Information and Safety Standards 2024* come into full effect.

### 3. Current cot testing and certification options

The following categories of 'infant sleep products' are covered by Furntech-AFRDI certification options.

Predetermined certification options for other types of infant sleep products do not currently exist. If you wish to have a product AFRDI certified that isn't a Household Cot, Folding Cot or Bassinet, contact us as it may be possible for a customised method to be developed specifically for your product.

The certification options outlined below are those that result from testing and evaluation undertaken **after July 2024**. They are to the '**new requirements**'. These certifications will be valid **up to and after** the end of the transitional period (Jan 19 2026).

### 3.1. Household cots

#### 3.1.1. Orange Tick (meets minimum legal requirement up to and after the end of the transitional period)

Compliance with the Consumer Goods Infant Products Information Standard, and Infant Sleep Products Safety Standard, 2024.

#### 3.1.2. Blue Tick (exceeds minimum legal requirement up to and after the end of the transitional period)

Compliance with the Consumer Goods Infant Products Information Standard, and Infant Sleep Products Safety Standard, 2024 **plus** compliance with AS/NZS 2172:2013 Cots for household use.

### 3.2. Folding cots

#### 3.2.1. Orange Tick (meets minimum legal requirement up to and after the end of the transitional period)

Compliance with the Consumer Goods Infant Products Information Standard, and Infant Sleep Products Safety Standard, 2024.

#### 3.2.2. Blue Tick (exceeds minimum legal requirement up to and after the end of the transitional period)

Compliance with the Consumer Goods Infant Products Information Standard, and Infant Sleep Products Safety Standard, 2024 **plus** compliance with AS/NZS 2195:2010 Folding cots.

### 3.3. Bassinets

#### 3.3.1. Orange Tick (meets minimum legal requirement after the end of the transitional period)

Compliance with the Consumer Goods Infant Products Information Standard, and Infant Sleep Products Safety Standard, 2024.

**NB** there are no explicitly stated transitional requirements for bassinets (the new requirements for bassinets only come into effect when the new Safety Standards come into full effect i.e. after the transition period, from 19 January 2026 onwards).

#### 3.3.2. Blue Tick

There isn't a Blue Tick option for bassinets (as there is no comprehensive and up-to-date Australian Standard that addresses this category of furniture).

### 3.4. Other types of infant products

If you wish to have a product that isn't a Household Cot, Folding Cot or Bassinet AFRDI certified, contact us as it may be possible for a customised method to be developed specifically for your product.

## 4. Transitional Certifications

The transitional certifications outlined below are those that resulted from testing undertaken **before** July 2024, when the new Infant Products Information and Safety Standards were introduced. They are only valid until **January 19 2026** i.e. until the end of the transitional period.

### 4.1. Household cots

#### 4.1.1. Orange Tick (meets minimum legal requirement until the end of the transitional period)

Compliance with Australia Consumer Protection Notice Number 6 of 2005  
Consumer Product Safety Standard: Children's Household Cots.

#### 4.1.2. Blue Tick (exceeds minimum legal requirement until the end of the transitional period)

Compliance with Australia Consumer Protection Notice Number 6 of 2005  
Consumer Product Safety Standard: Children's Household Cots **plus** compliance with AS/NZS 2172:2013 Cots for household use.

### 4.2. Folding cots

#### 4.2.1. Orange Tick (meets minimum legal requirement until the end of the transitional period)

Compliance with Australia Consumer Protection Notice Number 4 of 2008  
Consumer Product Safety Standard: Children's Portable Folding Cots.

#### 4.2.2. Blue Tick (exceeds minimum legal requirement until the end of the transitional period)

Compliance with Australia Consumer Protection Notice Number 4 of 2008  
Consumer Product Safety Standard: Children's Portable Folding Cots **plus** compliance with AS/NZS 2195:2010 Folding Cots.

### 4.3. Bassinets and 'other types of infant products'

There are no transitional requirements for bassinets or for 'other types of infant products'. The new Safety Standards covering these products only come into effect after the transition period i.e. from 19 January 2026.

### 5. Assessments – what's involved

#### 5.1. New product assessments

All product assessments performed after July 2024 will be performed in accordance with the **new requirements**, as outlined in Section 3 above (unless assessment to the old requirements is specifically requested).

In general, assessment involves:

1. the evaluation of general safety, marking, labelling, and assembly instruction requirements.
2. taking a series of measurements.
3. undertaking strength, durability and stability testing.

This work has to be performed at our laboratory; it cannot be undertaken at your warehouse or showroom. Testing of the toxicity of coatings and timber and plastic components is also required under the Blue Tick program.

Models which are essentially the same – that is vary only in cosmetic ways – may be treated as one model for the purposes of evaluation and (possibly) certification. The assessor will make judgements about the degree of similarity after inspecting the models (or detailed technical drawings of them).

#### 5.2. Prototypes

We are happy to assess prototypes. Assessment is often undertaken to help ensure compliance prior to the expensive stage of tooling up for production. However, although we will assess prototypes, we are not prepared to certify them. Prototypes that have been successfully tested will receive a test report only. The report will relate to the compliance of the particular sample that was tested i.e. it will not be a statement of general product endorsement. A certification agreement will only be entered into after an off-tool production sample has been satisfactorily assessed.

If you wish to have a prototype assessed please identify the item as a prototype on the Testing Request form attached.

#### 5.3. Upgrading existing certified products to the new requirements

Products that are Orange Tick certified to the **old requirements** will need to be fully retested.

## Furntech-AFRDI Testing Information Kit – Cot testing

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Products that are Blue Tick certified to the **old requirements** will only need to be re-evaluated (not fully retested).

In both cases new product samples will need to be sent to our laboratory.

### 5.4. Drawing assessments

We also offer a service where we assess technical diagrams/drawings prior to testing. We cannot state whether a product will comply from a diagram assessment alone, but it can help identify obvious feature or dimensional failures that you can rectify prior to sending us the test sample. With this type of assessment the more dimensions detailed in the technical diagrams/drawings the better. There is a charge for this service.

## 6. Furntech-AFRDI

Furntech-AFRDI is a not for profit organisation (owned by its members) which specialises in testing furniture.

Furntech-AFRDI is accredited by NATA (the National Association of Testing Authorities) as a laboratory with the quality systems, equipment and expertise to test to a wide range of furniture standards.

The Institute participates in the development of standards for nursery furniture via membership of Standards Australia committee CS-088 – *Furniture*.

## 7. Product certification

Furntech-AFRDI offers two levels of product certification: Orange Tick Certification, and AFRDI Blue Tick Certification.

Products which have been successfully tested to the government mandated minimum requirements are accorded Orange Tick certification.

Products that have been successfully tested to both the government mandated minimum requirements and the latest applicable Australian standard (or equivalent, as deemed by Furntech-AFRDI), where there is no Australian Standard) are accorded Blue Tick certification.

Both product certifications are issued contingent on undertakings by the holders of such certificates that they will maintain the quality of the product to that which was tested, and advise AFRDI of any proposed changes to the product during the period of validity of the certificate.

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## Furntech-AFRDI Testing Information Kit – Cot testing

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Both AFRDI Blue Tick, and Orange Tick certifications are recognised widely within the Australian and New Zealand furniture industries as a sign of quality and are frequently required in tender and contract specifications.

For further information regarding AFRDI certification please refer to our Website.

### 8. Costs

The differences between Orange and Blue Tick testing charges largely reflect:

- the cost of the toxicity testing of coatings and timber and plastic components required for Blue Tick.
- the cost of additional strength and durability testing required for Blue Tick.

There will be an additional charge under either program if mattress firmness testing is required i.e. if the product under evaluation is intended to be supplied with a mattress.

NB. We can also evaluate the firmness of mattresses and other sleep surfaces in their own right. The outcome for this type of work is a test report. We don't certify mattresses as stand-alone items as their overall compliance is also determined by how they fit into a cot (or other furniture product).

Testing prices also recognise that many cot suppliers use variations on a theme to produce different models – the structure, mechanisms and dimensions are the same but the look or construction of the ends may differ.

Where samples of end variations are provided at the same time as the whole cot, the cost – including disassembling and re-assembling the cot with different ends – is much lower than if tested separately. If variations on ends are sent separately, the testing cost would reflect the amount of work involved.

Please contact Furntech-AFRDI for current prices.

Discounts on testing (excluding toxicity testing) and certification costs of up to 20 percent are available for Furntech-AFRDI members. Information on membership is available from the Institute and our website.

### 9. Payment

Furntech-AFRDI policy is that PAYMENT MUST BE MADE BEFORE TESTING COMMENCES. Please phone 03 6326 6155 to request an invoice to facilitate payment. Facilities are available for payment by Visa and MasterCard.

### 10. Timing

The testing process normally takes about two to three weeks. Each product sample must be conditioned in a controlled atmosphere prior to testing.

Jobs are added to our testing schedule once we have received the requested product samples, assembly instructions, a completed copy of the Testing Request Form (which will accompany your quotation), and the relevant testing fees. Delays may occur depending on the current flow of work.

### 11. Freight

Refer to the Institute's [Information Kit on Freight to Furntech-AFRDI](#). Distribution of this Kit in hardcopy form will include the freight-related information as a supplementary sheet.

All products will be disposed of at the completion of testing, or, if requested, returned at the customer's expense.

### 12. What You Get

Assuming that the product complies and that your company has entered into a certification agreement, at the end of the process Furntech-AFRDI will:

- issue a Certificate; and
- add the item to our website list of certified products.

Formal test reports are available on request (for an additional charge unless included in the initial quotation).