



### ***Toy Recalls For Lead & Magnets***

As many of you are aware of, there have been more recalls dealing with lead and magnets in toys and other products geared towards young children. Obviously, Mattel has been in the news a lot, but our guess is that this won't be the last of these recalls. Many of the US toy manufacturers use the same contract manufacturing companies in China. As such, other companies may end up recalling some of their products as well. Our suggestion is that if one toy comes up in a recall, you should avoid all toys built in China in that category until the toy companies resolve this problem. The other suggestion is to never buy a second hand toy as you will not know of the toy's origin. As we go to press, Disney will start to test all its branded toys in the next few weeks, and China has banned the use of lead in toys. But we won't see these new toys until into 2008.

As we did last month, we will keep you up to date on the recalls that affect young children. To see our complete 2007 Recall List of products that may affect children, go to [www.ColoradoChildproofers.com/Recalls](http://www.ColoradoChildproofers.com/Recalls).

### ***Preventing Vehicle Backovers***

Each year, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that about 100 children are accidentally killed in a vehicle backover accident. Many are not captured by the NHTSA because the accidents occur on private property. Most of these accidents occur when a child runs out of their home and tries to get the attention of their parent or the person pulling out of the driveway. Unfortunately, like many other child safety issues, most people don't believe it can happen to them.

Much of the problem stems from lack of visibility. With many families having SUVs, pickup trucks or minivans in which the rear windows are very high up, the blind viewing area behind a vehicle can go back to as much as 70 feet. As such, it is very difficult to see a child behind a vehicle.

Many newer vehicles have cameras that are marketed as back-up aids for parking. Some of these work well for helping identify children or objects behind the vehicle, and some of these don't. So make certain that you test these when purchasing the vehicle. These systems are not inexpensive. Depending on how they are bundled with other features in a new vehicle, they range anywhere from \$500 to nearly \$8,000.

Our recommendation is that you should always walk around your vehicle to check for children, toys, bikes, etc., prior to getting into your vehicle. But don't leave it here. Always make the adults or babysitters in the home know that you will be leaving and that they should keep a close eye on the children to prevent them from running out of your home to try to go with you.

### ***August 2007 Recalls***

There continues to be a long list of products that are intended for children, especially ones containing either lead or magnets. See our web site for a more comprehensive list. Below is a short list of the recalls that occurred in July and early August:

1. Springs Window Fashions Basic Blindz Window Blinds—Window Cord Strangulation Hazard