



Guidance for Importing Toys

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Labelling, including UKCA mark

- The product must be marked with the name or registered trademark of the manufacturer as well as their contact address. If the product is too small, this information can be on the packaging or in the accompanying instructions instead
- The manufacturer must mark the product with a type, batch, model or serial number or some other element to identify the toy, so in the event of any issues these details can be used to trace the products
- The name or registered trademark of the importer as well as their contact address must also be marked on the product. If the product is too small, this information can be on the packaging or in the accompanying instructions instead
- From 1 January 2023, toys being imported into GB must be marked with the UKCA mark. If they are being distributed in both markets and have the relevant safety documentation, both the UK and CE mark can be applied. For Northern Ireland goods, the UKNI and CE marks must both be applied

Warnings and Instructions

Some toys must be marked with specific warnings depending on the risks of the product. They must also be supplied with a set of clear instructions which identifies how to assemble, maintain, and use the product safely.

- Toys which might be dangerous for children under 36 months or 3 years of age must have a warning such as 'Not suitable for children under 36 months' or 'Not suitable for children under three years' as well as the reason, such as 'contains small parts'
- Activity toys such as rope swings must be accompanied by instructions telling the user to carry out checks and maintenance of the main parts such as suspensions, fixings, anchorages. They must also point out that if these checks are not carried out, the toy may cause an injury. Instructions must also show how to correctly assemble the toy, indicating those parts which can present a danger if incorrectly assembled
- Chemical toys which contain dangerous substances or mixtures must have a warning of the dangerous nature of these substances or mixtures and an indication of the precautions to be taken by the user to avoid hazards associated with them
- Roller skates, ride on toys and skateboards should contain practical warnings around wearing protective equipment and that the products should not be used in traffic



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Compliance Documentation

As an importer of toys, you have a legal duty to ensure that the products you supply are safe. This can be done by making sure the manufacturer has carried out relevant conformity assessment procedures to ensure their products are safe. They must draw up a technical file which includes documents such as risk assessments and test reports. You should request and thoroughly check these documents before you purchase the goods, so you can provide them on request to Market Surveillance Authorities.

- The manufacturer can **self-certify** to demonstrate their products are safe. This may be in the form of a statement and supported by in-house testing
- The goods can be assessed by a test house which will produce a test report. This test report should include detail of all relevant tests and the standards applied to confirm the toy meets all the essential safety requirements
- The goods can be assessed by a UK approved Notified Body. This is where an accredited test laboratory independently assesses the product and issues a safety certificate. This accredited test report gives a far higher degree of confidence that the tests have been carried out correctly by competent laboratory staff
- Once the conformity assessment has been completed, the manufacturer must draw up a Declaration of Conformity which references how the product was assessed

A Declaration of Conformity should contain the following:

- A unique identification of the toy such as model number
- Name and address of the manufacturer or his authorised representative
- 'This declaration of conformity is issued under the sole responsibility of the manufacturer'
- A description of the toy including a photo of the toy
- Confirmation the toy meets the Toy Safety Directive
- References to the test standards used to assess the product
- If applicable the notified body 'name and number'
- Signed on behalf of the manufacturer with a date and place of the signature



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When you import goods into the UK, they can be subject to product safety checks at the border. In this instance you will be requested to provide some of the documents detailed below:

- A copy of the Declaration of Conformity issued by the manufacturer
- A copy of a relevant test report to demonstrate how the product was tested and the results of that test
- Authorities may also request copies of a detailed packing list which should show the quantity of each item including number of pieces and cartons. Also, any marks or numbers which will enable each carton to be identified and located
- This information must be supplied in English

When sourcing your products, you should:

- Buy from a reputable supplier and always obtain an invoice
- Make sure the product/packaging is marked with the name and address of the manufacturer
- Ask to see proof that the product is safe (a test certificate and Declaration of Conformity)

[The UK government provides further guidance on Placing manufactured goods on the market in Great Britain - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/placing-manufactured-goods-on-the-market-in-great-britain)