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Children's high chair - Part 1: Safety requirements

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Children's high chair - Part 1: Safety requirements

Kinderhochstühle - Teil 1: Sicherheitstechnische Anforderungen

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If this draft becomes a European Standard, CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

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

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prEN 14988-1:2004 (E)

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Foreword

This document (prEN 14988-1:2004) has been prepared by BT/TF 144 "High Chairs", the secretariat of which is held by UNI.

This document is currently submitted to the CEN Enquiry.

Annex A is informative.

This document will supersede ENV 1178-1:1994.

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Introduction

This European standard is intended to minimise accidents to children resulting from normal use and reasonably foreseeable misuse of children's high chairs.

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1 Scope

This part of European Standard specifies safety requirements for children's high chairs intended for children from 6 months to 36 months of age.

If the product can be converted into a product for which a EN safety standard exists, the product shall also fulfil the requirements of that standard.

Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

prEN 149881), Children's high chairs - Part 2: Test methods

EN 71-1, Safety of toys - Part 1: Mechanical and physical properties

EN 71-3, Safety of toys - Part 3: Migration of certain elements

Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this European standard the following terms and definitions apply:

3.1

children's high chair

a free standing chair that elevates the child to approximately dining table height, intended for holding the child from 6 months to 36 months of age capable of remaining in a sitting position due to his or her own coordination. It may be fitted with a tray

3.2

crotch restraint

a vertical strap or bar passing between the legs of the child and which prevents the child from slipping forward out of the high chair

3.3

locking mechanism

mechanism composed by locking devices and one or more operating devices. An action deactivates the locking devices, e.g. pushing a button, pressing a lever or turning a knob

locking devices

devices mounted on a frame, which will maintain parts of the frame in position for use

3.5

gap

a narrow opening

¹⁾ To be published

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3.6

integral harness

an assembly of straps round the torso and over the shoulders attached to the crotch restraint serving to retain the child in the chair

3.7

hole

a space cut through or partly through a material

3.8

opening

a space between structural members or components

3.9

shear and squeeze points

gaps which can cause harm to parts of the body and which occur when two parts close together or open during relative movements

3.10

waist belt

a strap around the torso serving to retain the child in the chair

4 Materials

4.1 Materials and surfaces

Materials shall be visually clean and free of infestation.

The manufacturer/importer/retailer shall provide verification that accessible materials and surfaces meet the relevant requirements from EN 71-3.

5 Construction

5.1 General

The requirements apply to a high chair assembled in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. If parts of the high chair are designed to be removable (e.g. a tray or a foot rest), the requirements apply to the high chair with and without these part(s).

Connecting screws for direct fastening, e.g. self tapping screws, shall not be used for the assembly of any component that is designed to be removed or loosened when dismantling the high chair for purposes of transportation or storage.

Exposed edges and protruding parts shall be rounded or chamfered and free from burrs and sharp edges.

5.2 Holes, gaps and openings

With the exception of all parts of the high chair below the under-surface of the seat, the integral harness and the waist belt, there shall be no holes, gaps or openings between 7 mm and 12 mm accessible in normal position of use, which are deeper than 10 mm, when tested in accordance with clause prEN CSH99011, clause 6.6.2.

With the exception of the entrance to the seat unit and the two openings for the legs of the child to pass through, there shall be no holes, gaps or openings above the seat surface which allows the small torso probe to pass through when tested according to prEN 14988-2, clause 6.5.2.

5.3 Moving parts

The requirements of this paragraph does not apply to locking mechanisms.

To avoid the risk of shearing and crushing, shear and compression points shall be avoided. If shear and compression points cannot be eliminated for functional reasons, then the conditions for individual cases in 5.3.1, 5.3.2 and 5.3.3 shall be applied.

5.3.1 Shear and compression points when setting up and folding away

Shear and compression points that are accessible only when the product is being set up or folded away are permitted, if they are not under the influence of spring force.

5.3.2 Shear and compression points under the influence of spring force

If shear and compression points are created by parts operated by spring force or other sources of energy, the distance between moving parts shall not be less than 18 mm unless the distance is always less than 5 mm when tested according to prEN 14988-2, clause 6.5.1.

5.3.3 Shear and compression points under the influence of body weight or other external forces

When tested according to prEN 14988-2, clause 6.5.1, if part of the product can fold or be detached, they shall be locked to avoid release by the child using the product, by another child or by unintentional action by an adult.

When the product has been deployed for use, there shall be no accessible compression points which can be closed to less than 12 mm as the result of :

—	the movement of the child	using the	product; or	
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the application of an external force (either by another child or, unintentionally by an adult) of up to 50 N, unless the distance is always less than 5 mm. 8-1-2006

Unintentional movement is ruled out if:

- a) the locking mechanism is automatically engaged and the load has a closing effect on the locking mechanism; or
- at least two independent locking mechanisms are provided for the movable part or system; or
- c) the locking mechanisms under load cannot be released unintentionally.

5.4 Locking mechanisms for folding high chairs

Locking mechanisms are required to prevent a high chair folding whilst a child is in the high chair and also during the process of a child being put in and taken out of the high chair.

5.4.1 Incomplete deployment

To avoid the hazard due to incomplete deployment, one of the following conditions shall be fulfilled:

- a) the weight of the child using the product acts to prevent the folding or detachment or,
- b) at least one locking mechanism engages automatically when the product is deployed for use.

5.4.2 Unintentional release of locking mechanism

To avoid the hazards due to unintentional release or operation by a child, one of the following conditions shall be fulfilled:

- a) at least one locking mechanism requires a minimum force of 50 N before and after test in accordance with prEN 14988-2, clause 6.2, or
- b) at least one locking mechanism requires the use of a tool to be released or,
- c) folding is only possible when two independent locking mechanisms are operated simultaneously or,
- d) there are two or more automatically engaging locking devices that cannot be released by one single action, or
- e) folding of the high chair requires two consecutive actions, the first of which must be maintained while the second is carried out

5.4.3 Locking mechanism strength

During test in accordance with prEN 14988-2, clause 6.3, the high chair shall not collapse. The locking mechanism shall remain engaged.

5.5 Small parts

When tested in accordance with prEN 14988-2, clause 6.4, any part that can be detached shall not fit wholly within the cylinder. Parts that clearly will not fit in this cylinder shall not be tested.

5.6 Restraint system

The high chair shall be such as to prevent the child from slipping forward out of the seat.

This requirement can be met either by restraint system comprising of a crotch restraint and an horizontal component or by an integral harness.

If the high chair is fitted with a reclinable back rest, it shall have an integral harness.

The crotch restraint, harnesses and belts shall have a width of not less than 20 mm.

The crotch restraint, harnesses and belts shall be undamaged when tested in accordance with prEN 14988-2, clause 6.7.

Strap adjusters shall not move more than 20 mm when tested in accordance with prEN 14988-2, clause 6.7.

When a high chair is fitted with harness or belt attachment points these shall not be damaged when tested in accordance with prEN 14988-2, clause 6.6. The attachment points shall be independently fixed and each shall at all times remain within 50 mm of the front of the back rest and not more than 75 mm above the chair seat (see Figure 1).

If an integral harness or a belt is supplied it shall be adjustable and it shall show no damage when tested in accordance with prEN 14988-2, clause 6.6 and 6.7.