

THE REGULATION ZONE

**Button & Coin Battery
Industry Awareness
June 2022**



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THE LOWDOWN - LET'S GET STRAIGHT INTO IT!



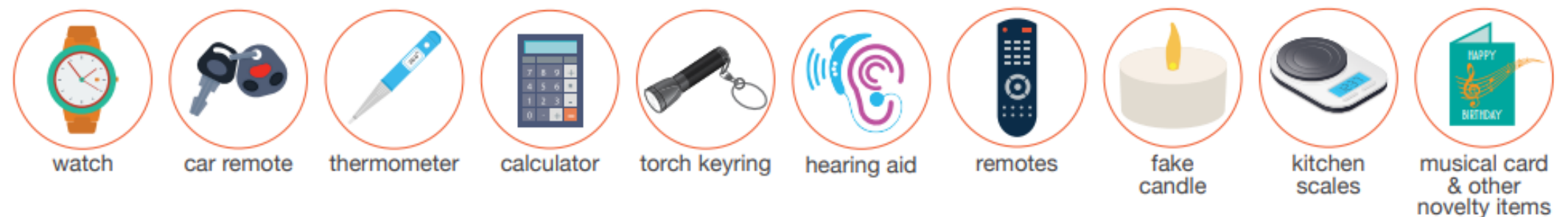
TINY BATTERIES, BIG DANGER

If swallowed, button batteries can become stuck in a child's throat and burn through the oesophagus in less than 2 hours. This burning can lead to serious injury requiring surgery, or death.

In Australia, around 20 children a week present to an emergency department with a button battery related injury – that's over 1,000 children every year.

Children under the age of 5 years are at the greatest risk.

Common items button batteries are found in



MAKING SURE IT'S KID SAFE



BUTTON AND COIN BATTERY REGULATORY COMPLIANCE FOR SUPPLIERS & RETAILERS

- Do you know what the requirements are for button & coin battery products and batteries and how they may impact your range?
- Are your products safe? Do you have test reports? Are all your products, packaging, instructions & batteries correctly marked with warnings and symbols?
- Can you name the regulatory safety and information standards?
- Are you facing a recall? Is it possible you will need to destroy inventory?
- Are your products fully compliant at retail level now the 22nd June 2022 deadline has arrived?

THE TECHNICAL STUFF - CONSUMER PRODUCTS



ALMOST ALL CONSUMER PRODUCTS THAT USE A BUTTON OR COIN BATTERY MUST COMPLY TO THE FOLLOWING REGULATED REQUIREMENTS.

- Consumer Goods (Products Containing Button/Coin Batteries) Safety Standard
- Consumer Goods (Products Containing Button/Coin Batteries) Information Standard

Button/coin battery safety: a guide for business on the application of mandatory standards.

[**ACCESS THE GUIDE**](#)



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THE FUNDAMENTAL REQUIREMENTS - CONSUMER PRODUCTS

1. Consumer products that use button or coin batteries must have an enclosure that is inaccessible to children.
2. Enclosures must use either an enclosure that requires two distinct and separate actions to open, or require the use of a tool. If screws are used to secure battery cover the screws must be 'captive', similar to examples to the right.
3. If the button battery is supplied loose (not installed) it must be in child-resistant packaging and meet the safety and information standards for button batteries.
4. All lithium batteries 20 mm or larger - supplied installed or loose within a product - must include one of the recognised 'keep out of reach of children' symbols. This also applies to products where the battery may be inaccessible and non-replaceable.
5. The consumer packaging and instructions - or for a product not in packaging, the applicable warning symbols and clear warnings that meet the information standards - must be present.
6. Each product should have a current test report, that was conducted by a recognised testing facility to a recognised standard to demonstrate compliance.

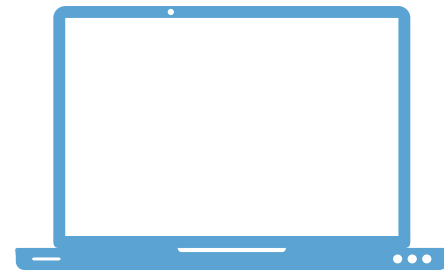


THE FUNDAMENTAL REQUIREMENTS - BUTTON & COIN BATTERIES

1. Packaging is required to be child-resistant for coin batteries of lithium chemistry of all sizes, and button/coin batteries of a chemistry other than lithium with a diameter of 16 mm or above.
2. Where the Standards require child-resistant packaging, and more than one button/coin battery is supplied, blister packaging must be designed to release only one battery at a time.
3. All lithium batteries 20 mm or larger, must include one of the recognised 'keep out of reach of children' symbols.
4. The consumer packaging must be marked with the applicable warning symbols and clear warnings that meet the information standards.
5. Each product should have a current test report to a recognised standard to demonstrate the batteries and packaging are compliant.



HOW CAN KIDSAFE VICTORIA HELP?



Kidsafe can help your team understand the requirements - we can virtually walk you through these.



Kidsafe can provide guidance on the testing pathways - we can help you build a suitable program for testing externally that will demonstrate compliance.



Kidsafe can conduct an independent audit of your product range - this could include a desktop sweep of your online or marketplace platform.



Kidsafe can provide an initial product and test report review to give you an unbiased view of how your product/s stack up.

If you are interested in engaging Kidsafe in a consulting role, please feel free to contact us at rob@kidsafevic.com.au or 9036 2036.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT - ARE YOU BUTTON BATTERY READY?

The mandatory product safety and information standards apply to all products within the supply chain from 22 June 2022!

Suppliers, sellers & retailers must NOT supply non-compliant products or batteries from this date.

Penalties for non-compliance may include:

- Recalls
- 87B Undertakings
- Possible financial remedies including fines as follows

A supplier may be found guilty of a criminal offence if they fail to comply with a mandatory safety or information standard.

The maximum fines include:

- \$500 000 for individuals

For a body corporate, the greater of:

- \$10 000 000
- Three times the value of the benefit received, or
- 10% of annual turnover in the preceding 12 months, if a court cannot determine the benefit obtained from the offence.

Civil penalties for the same amounts also apply.

Need help? Contact us today



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