

# Shopping SAFELY for toys



Online marketplaces facilitate the sale of unsafe toys to the UK, often from third-party sellers based overseas. When shopping online, always make sure you know who you are buying from and look for a UK address.



A British Toy and Hobby Association survey of third-party sellers via online marketplaces found that:

**88%**

OF TOYS TESTED WERE ILLEGAL TO SELL IN THE UK

**48%**

OF TOYS TESTED WERE UNSAFE FOR A CHILD TO PLAY WITH

**69%**

OF RECALLED TOYS WERE STILL ON SALE

“Children in the UK are at risk of death and serious injury from the sale of unsafe toys via online marketplaces.”

British Toy and Hobby Association

## What are the risks?

Trading standards has stopped several unsafe toy products from entering into the country, including:

- ★ Toothpick guns that fired hard enough to pierce a metal can
- ★ Magnetic dartboards with magnets powerful enough to injure a child
- ★ Toy storage boxes posing serious asphyxiation and fire risks
- ★ Numerous soft toys posing choking, suffocation and chemical risks

OPSS is working with local trading standards to remove dangerous online, having taken down more than 10,000 unsafe products, including toys, in 2021 alone.

If you are concerned about the safety of any product, please report it to your Local Trading Standards service through the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline (Consumerline in Northern Ireland or [consumeradvice.scot](http://consumeradvice.scot) in Scotland)

Buy safely this Christmas

Search ‘Christmas’ at [gov.uk](http://gov.uk) for more



Chartered Trading Standards Institute



Office for Product Safety & Standards