

Flame Retardant Chemicals

CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CENTER at the MOUNT SINAI INSTITUTE FOR EXPOSOMIC RESEARCH



Flame retardant chemicals are added to many products to comply with fire regulatory standards. However, many of these chemicals have not been proven to be effective at preventing fires and are associated with health risks.

Flame retardant chemicals are found in many everyday items.



Children's Sleepwear



Upholstered Furniture



Electronics



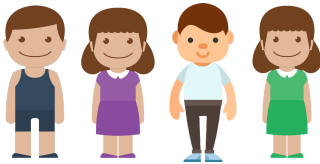
Baby products (e.g. car seats, changing pads, crib mattresses)



Mattresses

Flame retardant chemicals can harm your health.

Flame retardant chemicals are released from items that contain them and accumulate in dust. They can stay in the environment or in the body for years.



These chemicals may have adverse effects on the developing brain. Children who are exposed may have an increased risk of cognitive or behavioral problems.



Reducing exposure to flame retardant chemicals:



Reduce dust by wet dusting, wet mopping, and vacuuming with a HEPA filter vacuum. Wash hands frequently, especially before eating, and ventilate indoor spaces.

Choose naturally flame retardant materials like wool and polyester. Upholstered items with the **TB117-2013 label** do not require flame retardant treatment, however, contact the manufacturer to be sure.



Prevent children's exposure by supporting legislation to eliminate the use of toxic flame retardants. Replace, repair, or cover furniture with exposed foam to ensure the safety of children.



Choose cotton snug fit sleepwear and avoid those that are labeled flame resistant.

