

Majority of trampoline models have major safety problems - Consumer NZ



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Kiwis might want to keep trampolines off Santa's list, with six out of seven models not up to scratch when it comes to safety, according to a consumer watchdog.

Only one trampoline out of seven models met all the critical safety checks, while others had safety failures which could lead to a child getting their head, limbs or fingers trapped, Consumer NZ says.

Only the Springfree trampoline passed all impact, structural and entrapment tests, while three trampolines, available for less than \$350, including models from The Warehouse and Kmart, all had serious failures.

There were more than 11,500 trampoline-related injuries reported to ACC in 2016, nearly 4000 more than in 2013.

Though many injuries are down to how people use trampolines - they don't always stick to one-at-a-time supervised bouncing - that's no excuse, says Consumer NZ head of testing Paul Smith.

Consumer NZ based its testing on the Australian safety standard for trampolines, as there is no longer a New Zealand standard.

With the emergence of soft-edge trampolines the local standard retired in 2015 as it didn't keep pace with trampoline design, Mr Smith said.

"We can see no reason why the Australian standard isn't adopted here," he said.

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