

BACK- GROUND

From 1987, the Nightwear (Safety) Regulations 1985 have applied to all adult and children's nightwear and babies' garments sold in the UK. All these garments, as with most other products, are also subject to the General Product Safety Regulations; requiring all products to be safe.

EN 14878:2007 Burning Behaviour of Children's Nightwear - Specification, provides a specification for certain items considered to comply with the GPSD. The requirements are different to the Nightwear (Safety) regulations and which should be applied depends on the item, its design and the age of wearer.

Any garment that is considered to be a toy and in particular Children's Disguise Costumes also fall under the Toy Safety Directive which applies the flammability requirements of BS EN 71-2.

More than one requirement can apply at once.

Except for the garments covered in these instruments, as of June 2015 no flammability performance requirements have been specified for the majority of Children's garments in the UK.

ISSUES

- Textiles are inherently combustible.
- Clearly normal clothing is not intended, and cannot be expected to protect the wearer in a conflagration situation.
- The potential use of flame retardants raises concerns over the acceptability of exposing infants to these chemicals, their durability to clothes cleaning over the garments life, and consumer acceptance.
- The classification of garments "with play value" as toys can be problematical particularly where nightwear and general clothing is made in character designs.
- The performance requirements between the methods adopted in the different regulations and standards are not strictly comparable, as the test methods are different for each instrument.

BOLTON CONSULTANCY LTD

Is an independent consultancy offering confidential advice on textiles, textile products, clothing and consumer products. We have in-depth understanding of the processes systems and requirements needed to assure product integrity and compliance with National & International Standards and legislation.

AFFILIATIONS

Bolton Consultancy is a member of:

- British Standards Institution
- National Children's Wear Association

QUESTIONS For requirements in the EU or elsewhere and if you have any questions on the content of this information sheet or wish to discuss any other technical matters please contact Bolton Consultancy Ltd.

CONTACT

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FLAMMABILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR CHILDREN'S CLOTHING IN THE UK

**NIGHTWEAR (SAFETY)
REGULATIONS 1985,
BS EN 14878,
and
BS EN 71-2:**



THE TEST METHODS

Nightwear (Safety) Regulations: uses BS 5438 Test 3. Samples are tested after one wash (or 12 washes if FR treated) according to BS 5651. Samples are mounted vertically and a Butane gas flame is applied to the surface for 10s. 3 samples taken in the length and 3 in the width must be tested and ALL 6 must meet the requirements in BS 5722.

Note: Items made wholly of fibres of a synthetic substance which melts without decomposing or burning are taken as complying; without performing the test

EN 14878: applies EN 1103: (ISO 6941) without washing, mounts the sample vertically and applies a propane or butane gas flame for 10s to the face of the sample. 6 samples must pass.

The **EN 71-2:** test is based on ISO 6941, tests a single sample mounted on a inverted U shaped frame at 45°, overlapping joins are allowed and the flame is applied to the lower edge for 2s.

REQUIREMENTS

The requirements vary by garment type and age / size:

Pyjamas

Intended Wearer	UK Performance Requirements	Labeling Text
Birth to (6 months) height 68cm	None	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE
Over 68cm (6 months) and up to height: Girls 176cm (14 years) Boys 182cm (14 years)	Meet BS EN 14878 EITHER <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class A When tested to BS EN 1103 no surface flash flame 520mm trip thread severed in not less than 15s OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No design limitations 	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class B When tested to BS EN 1103 no surface flash flame 520mm trip thread severed in not less than 10s With design limitations see BS EN 14878 clause 10 	

Night Dresses, Dressing Gowns, Bath Robes (NOT Cotton Terry Towelling) and Similar Garments

Intended Wearer	UK Performance Requirements	Labeling Text
Birth to 3 months	None	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE
Over 3 months and up to height 68cm (6 months)	Meet UK regulations, BS 5722: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When tested to BS 5438 300mm trip thread severed in not less than 25s 600mm trip thread severed in not less than 50s 	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE LOW FLAMMABILITY TO BS 5722
Over 68cm (6 months) and up to height: Girls 176cm (14 years) Boys 182cm (14 years)	Meet UK regulations, BS 5722: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When tested to BS 5438 300mm trip thread severed in not less than 25s 600mm trip thread severed in not less than 50s 	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE LOW FLAMMABILITY TO BS 5722

Bath Robes Made of Cotton Terry Towelling Only

Intended Wearer	UK Performance Requirements	Labeling Text
Birth to 3 months	None	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE
Over 3 months and up to 6 months	None	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE
Over 68cm (6 months) and up to height: Girls 176cm (14 years) Boys 182cm (14 years)	Meet BS EN 14878 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class A When tested to BS EN 1103 no surface flash flame 520mm trip thread severed in not less than 15s 	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE

Labeling for Nightwear

Follow the UK Nightwear (Safety) Regulations for:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Position of label Font, size and colour Label durability Permanency of labelling of garment

Hats, Headwear, Scarves etc. (which are NOT Toys)

Intended Wearer	UK Performance Requirements	Labeling Text
Birth to 14 years	None	None (Optional only) KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE

Toy Disguise Costumes, Fancy Dress, Carnival Wear (and any garment likely to promote play)

Intended Wearer	UK Performance Requirements	Labeling Text
Birth to 12 months	None	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE
Over 12 months and up to 14 years	Meet BS EN 71-2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When tested to BS EN 71-2: No surface flash Rate of flame spread not more than 30mm/s OR Sample self extinguishes 	
	If rate of flame spread is more than 10mm/s	WARNING: KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE

Note: Toy Headwear has specific flammability testing and performance requirements in EN 71-2.

All other Garments (Daywear)

Intended Wearer	UK Performance Requirements	Labeling Text
Birth to 3 months	None	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE
Over 12 months and up to 14 years	None	None (Optional only) KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE

The information contained in this note is for information only and should not be relied upon. Reference should be made to the published standards which can be obtained from your national standards body.

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