15 Things You've Never Known About Cot Bed

The Ultimate Guide to Choosing the very best Cot Beds in the UK

Inviting a brand-new baby is an amazing turning point, and preparing the nursery is one of the most anticipated parts of the journey. Among the myriad of furniture choices offered, picking where the child will sleep is probably the most crucial choice moms and dads will make. In the UK market, **cot beds** have become *www.cots4tots.co.uk* the gold standard for nurseries.

Unlike standard cots, which children normally outgrow by the age of 2, a cot bed is designed to shift perfectly from newborn status all the way through to toddlerhood-- and in some cases even early school years.

This thorough guide checks out everything parents need to know about cot beds in the UK, from security requirements to include comparisons, assisting consumers make an educated investment for their household.

What is a Cot Bed and Why Choose One?

A cot bed is larger than a standard cot and typically measures around 140cm x 70cm (compared to a standard cot's 120cm x 60cm). The defining quality of a cot bed is its longevity. By removing the repaired sides and splitting completion panels, a cot bed transforms into a junior bed ideal for children approximately four or five years of ages.

Secret Benefits of Cot Beds:

- **Cost-Effectiveness:** While preliminary costs might be greater than a standard cot, buying one furniture piece that lasts for several years gets rid of the requirement to acquire a young child bed later on.
- **Familiarity:** Toddlers can experience stress and anxiety throughout the transition from cot to bed. Because a cot bed maintains the very same bed mattress and familiar surroundings, the transition is typically much smoother.
- **Area Efficiency:** Many UK cot beds feature incorporated storage services, such as under-bed drawers, optimizing nursery area in modern-day homes.

Comprehending UK Safety Standards

When purchasing nursery furniture in the UK, safety is critical. Parents must ensure that any cot bed they acquire abide by rigorous British and European safety standards.

When shopping, look for the following security certifications:

- **BS EN 716-1 & & 2:** The main European safety requirement for children's cots and folding cots for domestic use. This controls slat spacing (to prevent an infant's head from getting stuck-- generally between 4.5 cm and 6.5 cm apart), structural stability, and the lack of hazardous spaces or sharp edges.

- **BS 8509:** The British Standard for kids's beds and cot beds, ensuring toughness and safety as the furniture transforms into a young child bed.
- **Non-Toxic Finishes:** Babies enjoy to chew on furniture when teething. Make sure paints and varnishes are saliva-resistant and free from harmful chemicals, lead, or heavy metals.

Kinds Of Cot Beds Available in the UK

The UK market offers a variety of designs to suit every nursery aesthetic, from standard wood visual appeals to streamlined, modern minimalism.

1. Standard Cot Beds with Base Adjustments

These feature a mattress base that can be gotten used to multiple heights (generally three positions).

- **High position:** For newborns, making it easy for moms and dads to lift the baby without straining their back.
- **Middle position:** For children who are starting to sit up.
- **Most affordable position:** For active children who are pulling themselves approximately stand, avoiding them from tumbling out.

2. Cot Beds with Integrated Storage

Perfect for smaller UK nurseries where closet and drawer space is at a premium, these models include built-in drawers beneath the sleeping platform.

3. Sleigh Cot Beds

Identified by their curved, scroll-like headboards and footboards, sleigh beds provide a classic, declaration look. They are usually much heavier and need somewhat **Baby Cot** more flooring space.

4. Convertible Cot Bed Sets (Room in a Box)

Often sold as part of a three-piece nursery set, these bundles include the cot bed together with a matching dresser/changer and wardrobe.

Contrast of Popular Cot Bed Styles

Function/ Type Standard Cot Bed Sleigh Cot Bed Storage Cot Bed Convertible Set **Area Required** Moderate Large Moderate Large **Durability** Approximately 4-- 5 years Up to 4-- 5 years Approximately 4-- 5 years Up to 4-- 5 years **Storage Included** Optional Uncommon Built-in drawers Matching furnishings **Visual** Flexible/ Modern Traditional/ Grand Functional Collaborated **Cost Range (£)** £ 150 - £ 400 £ 350 - £ 800+ £ 250 - £ 600 £ 500 - £ 1,200+

Key Features to Look For

Before purchasing, parents need to weigh up which includes matter most to their way of life and room measurements.

- **Teething Rails:** Transparent plastic strips running along the leading edges of the cot sides. These protect the wood from being chewed by teething babies and safeguard the child's gums.

- **Drop-Side vs. Fixed Side:** While drop-side cots (where one side lowers to make reaching the baby easier) were once common, many modern-day UK makers favour repaired sides with adjustable bed mattress heights due to enhanced structural stability and security records.
- **Bed Mattress Size Compatibility:** Always examine the required bed mattress size. Standard UK cot bed mattresses measure **140cm x 70cm**. Make sure there is no space greater than 3cm in between the mattress edge and the cot sides.

Tips for Choosing the Right Mattress

A cot bed is just as great as the mattress inside it. In the UK, security guidelines determine that a baby mattress must be firm, flat, and water resistant.

- **Fiber Mattresses:** Lightweight and budget-friendly, though they may soften over time.
- **Pocket Sprung Mattresses:** Offer excellent support as the child grows much heavier into their young child years.
- **Natural Mattresses:** Made using materials like coconut coir, latex, and wool, wrapped in natural cotton. These are breathable, hypoallergenic, and ecologically friendly.

Important safety note: Always buy a brand new mattress for a newborn. Second-hand mattresses bring an increased risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) due to potential internal sagging and hygiene deterioration.

Transitioning from Cot Bed to Toddler Bed

Ultimately, the time will come to convert the cot bed. Keep an eye out for these developmental turning points suggesting readiness:

1. The child is attempting to climb up out of the cot, producing a security threat.
2. They have reached a height of around 89cm or are visibly too wish for the restricted space.
3. They are potty training and need independent night-time access to the restroom.

Step-by-Step Conversion Process:

1. **Clear the location:** Strip the bedding and remove mobile accessories or hanging toys.
2. **Lower or remove the side:** Depending on the style, either remove one entire side rail or attach the half-guard rail (if supplied) to avoid midnight rolling.
3. **Include the child:** Let the child pick out new toddler bedding to make the transition seem like an exciting turning point instead of a forced change.

Last Thoughts

Buying a cot bed is a useful option that uses durability, design, and comfort. By focusing on accredited UK security standards, selecting an encouraging bed mattress, and choosing a design that complements the readily available nursery space, parents can develop a secure, comfy sleeping environment that adjusts seamlessly to their child's early years. Pleased shopping, and here to peaceful nights for both moms and dads and infant!