

# BBB Advises Toy Safety Check At Christmastime

By Bette Clemens

The Child Protection and Toy Safety Act was put into effect in January, 1970. It gave the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) Bureau of Product Safety the authority to remove and keep from the market toys and other child-oriented products with electrical, mechanical and thermal hazards.

That's fine. FDA has the legal backup now to ban hazardous toys. Its latest list has approximately 800 items judged dangerous enough to be removed from the marketplace. Great!

But in the midst of all those carols and the busiest shopping season of the year, who's going to check a 800 item list to make sure each of the 150,000 toys on the market is safe?

The same smart shopper who juggles the family budget, judges quality and quantity of purchases for her family, keeps them well fed and adequately clothed, that's who. That's you.

To help you along, these guidelines were produced by a 12-member Toy Safety Committee of the Virginia Citizens Consumer Council. This small effective group of young parents distributed these guidelines at the point of sale in 25 toy stores in Northern Virginia. Only 3 stores contacted by the Committee refused to accept them. Most toy retailers in the area were glad to help. They do, after all, want their customers to

know of their concern with safety as well as sales.

Here are the guidelines:

1. Buy toys that are built to withstand investigation by curious children—yours!
2. Buy toys with easily understood instructions.
3. Buy toys appropriate for your child's age and capabilities. If too sophisticated, they could be improperly operated and cause injury.
4. Select toys with which your child can become involved, which will stimulate his imagination, and which will help to develop skills.
5. Look for wheels attached to pull toys, trucks, etc. with screws, not nails.
6. Look for pull cords attached with staples, not thumb tacks.
7. Examine metal edges—they should be rolled or tumbled in.
8. Examine wooden toys for smoothly sanded finishes.
9. Choose toys of flexible plastics; rigid plastics produce a very sharp edge when broken.
10. Check facial features on stuffed animals—cloth or painted ones are better than buttons fastened with a pin or hook.
11. Buy washable and non-breakable toys for infants.
12. Be sure any toy designed for placing in the mouth, such as a whistle, a horn, or a bubble blower is not so small or fragile that it, or any part can be swallowed.
13. Check labels to be sure non-toxic paint is used.
14. Make sure riding toys have wide-spread wheels and a low center of gravity to prevent tipping over.
15. Be wary of high pressure advertising (especially on TV) for toys. Don't buy on impulse. Think!

And when you take the purchased toy home, teach your child how to use it properly.

If you'd like to have a copy of the latest banned toy list, it's yours for the asking from:

U. S. Department of Health, Education & Welfare, Food and Drug Administration, Bureau of Product Safety, 5401 Westbard Avenue, Bethesda, Md. 20016. Ask for DHEW Publication No. (FDA) 73-7007.

(Bette Clemens is Director of Consumer Affairs for the Council of Better Business Bureaus, Inc.)

## Beware Of Schemers

With the Christmas season fast approaching, shoppers were warned recently by the Better Business Bureau to be watchful of the gyp artists who flourish during this period of hectic buying.

R. E. Hitchcock, Managing Director of the Bureau said there are a number of fairly constant schemes that crop up each year.

They are, according to the Better Business Bureau:

--Unordered merchandise, often sent in the name of an unknown charity or as an outright commercial venture.

--Bargain offers for perfume, cologne or toilet water falsely sold under established brand names or which are said to be a famous brand under a different label.

--Telephone appeals from unknown charitable organizations for funds, clothing, food or fuel.

--Street corner sales of cheap watches, ties, perfume, toys, gadgets and other shoddy merchandise.

--Attempts to collect for C.O.D. packages for a neighbor who the deliverer says is not home.

--Phony pricing.

Phony pricing is a scheme often used to sell cheap perfume or toilet water that are preticketed at prices as high as \$20. Sometimes a one-shot national advertisement is used to give credibility to the inflated prices, and it is displayed prominently where the merchandise is sold.

The frequency of unordered merchandise increases during the Christmas season, according to the Better Business Bureau. Recipients are under no obligation to accept unordered merchandise, acknowledge its receipt, pay for it, or return it unless the sender calls for it within a reasonable period of time. In North Carolina unordered merchandise is considered an unconditional gift.

At Christmastime, sometimes delays occur in the delivery of goods ordered by mail from reputable businesses. The Better Business Bureau advises allowing four to six weeks for delivery when ordering gifts by mail.

## Scouts Have New G.S. Law

According to Scoutabout News issued by the Pisgah Girl Scout Council, Inc. in Asheville, Girl Scouting will be rewording and updating the Girl Scout Promise and the Girl Scout Law.

The basic ethical concepts are still there as they have been since 1912, but it is hoped that with more relevant language the girls will better understand and be able to apply these concepts.

The "Promise" now reads: On my honor, I will try: To serve God, My country and mankind, And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

The new Girl Scout Law is: I will do my best:

--to be honest, to be fair, to help where I am needed, to be cheerful.

--to be friendly and considerate, to be a sister to every Girl Scout, to respect authority, to use resources wisely, to protect and improve the world around me, to show respect for myself and others through my words and actions.



Take stock in America. Now Bonds mature in less than six years.

# SPEND CHRISTMAS AT REVCO

## AND YOU WON'T HAVE TO SPEND AS MUCH

<p><b>LADY SCHICK LASTING CURLS HAIRSETTER WITH BEAUTIFYING MIST</b></p> <p>New, quick way to longer lasting curls. Includes 20 rollers in three sizes and Lasting Curls pre-setting spray with conditioner.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$24.98 <b>\$16.99</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>CHIC HAIR STYLER</b></p> <p>Dries, sets, and styles hair in minutes. Includes 2 combs and brush attachments.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$9.95 <b>\$5.99</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>PANASONIC TOOT-A-LOOP RADIO</b></p> <p>The wildest portable yet! Carry it on the wrist or give it a twist and set it on the table. Complete with battery, earphone, and gift box.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$15.88 <b>\$12.88</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>
<p><b>SCHICK HOT LATHER MACHINE</b></p> <p>Delivers piping hot lather in seconds at the touch of a button. Includes 2 refill cartridges.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$19.95 <b>\$13.99</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>CLAIROL KINDNESS CUSTOM CARE CONDITIONING MIST HAIRSETTER</b></p> <p>Model K-320. 20 conditioning rollers; 3 setting choices; handy storage pouch. Compact design; easy to carry.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$26.99 <b>\$16.99</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>VAN WYCK AUTOMATIC CAN OPENER</b></p> <p>Electric can opener opens any size can in seconds; has handy bottle opener, too.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$7.95 <b>\$5.29</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>
<p><b>LADY SCHICK WARM 'N CREAMY BEAUTY MACHINE</b></p> <p>The first dispenser of warm beauty creams for deep down skin care. Includes facial cleanser and skin moisturizer.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$24.95 <b>\$18.88</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>CLAIROL SKIN MACHINE</b></p> <p>Model SM-1. Automatic cleansing brush scrubs away grime, removes excess oils, keeps skin clear and clean.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$14.99 <b>\$9.99</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>MIDLAND AM/FM PORTABLE RADIO</b></p> <p>Operates on batteries or household current.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$21.95 <b>\$11.88</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>
<p><b>SCHICK STYLING DRYER FOR MEN</b></p> <p>Model 336. A natural gift idea! Styles, grooms, and dries hair professionally at home. Includes brush, comb and directional drying attachment.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$21.98 <b>\$15.88</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>SONAC SONIC ACTION DENTURE CLEANING SYSTEM</b></p> <p>Actually removes built-up tartar, deep stains, offensive odor in minutes. Recommended by dentists.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$18.95 <b>\$12.77</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>MIDLAND PORTABLE CASSETTE TAPE RECORDER</b></p> <p>Operates on batteries or household current. Dependable solid-state circuitry. Includes microphone, and tape cassette.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$29.95 <b>\$22.88</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>

### See Revco's complete line of Christmas confections!

FAMOUS NAME BOXED CHOCOLATES, NOVELTIES, HARD AND FRUIT-FILLED CANDIES, FRUIT CAKES, NUTS, ALL AT REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICES!

<p><b>FOIL and PAPER CHRISTMAS GIFT WRAP</b></p> <p>5 rolls in package. Decorative and colorful!</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$1.49 <b>99¢</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>GLEAMING CHRISTMAS TREE ICICLES</b></p> <p>Generous boxful, flame-proof and tarnish-proof.</p> <p>COMPARE AT 59¢ <b>39¢</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>DELUXE BOXED CHRISTMAS CARDS</b></p> <p>Fine selection of beautiful cards, 25 cards per box.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$3.50 <b>\$1.39</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>ILLUMINATED LAMPS</b></p> <p>Novelty lights for Christmas! Choice of Santa, Noel, or Snowman.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$1.49 <b>99¢</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>
<p><b>FOIL and PAPER JUMBO GIFT WRAP</b></p> <p>Wrap any size gift with extra large paper.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$1.49 <b>99¢</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>ARTIFICIAL SNOW SPRAY</b></p> <p>13-ounce aerosol can produces large, natural looking snow flakes.</p> <p>COMPARE AT 69¢ <b>49¢</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>GE OUTDOOR 25 LIGHT SET</b></p> <p>Pre-tested, weatherproof, with all-green cords and sockets. Includes replaceable bulbs. UL Approved.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$6.25 <b>\$5.29</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>BOXED CHRISTMAS TREE ORNAMENTS</b></p> <p>Choose from shiny glass, satin sheen, velvet touch, glitter or snow-ball styles.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$1.00 to \$2.00 <b>59¢ to 99¢</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>
<p><b>BAG-O-BOWS GIFT TOPPINGS</b></p> <p>25 high-fashion bows in bag with stick-on backing.</p> <p>COMPARE AT 89¢ <b>39¢</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>DECORATIVE TINSEL GARLAND</b></p> <p>32-foot metalized vinyl garlands, tarnish-proof. Choice of silver or gold.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$1.49 <b>\$1.00</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>GE MERRY MIDGET INDOOR 20 LIGHT SET</b></p> <p>Flashing or steady burning. Replaceable push-in bulbs. UL Approved.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$2.60 <b>\$1.79</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>HAPPY HOLIDAY HOLLY WREATH</b></p> <p>14" wreath, vinyl plastic leaves and berries decorated with gold bells.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$1.00 <b>77¢</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>
<p><b>REEL RIBBON ASSORTMENT</b></p> <p>Assorted ribbon colors and styles on one convenient reel.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$1.00 <b>79¢</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>BOXED CHRISTMAS CARDS</b></p> <p>Wide choice of assortments or one-subject boxes, with religious or traditional messages. 25 or 50 cards per box.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$2.50 <b>88¢</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>GE REPLACEMENT LAMPS</b></p> <p>In assorted colors, guaranteed to light.</p> <p>C-7 LAMPS, COMPARE AT 69¢ <b>54¢</b> Pkg. of 4</p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p> <p>C-9 LAMPS, COMPARE AT 85¢ <b>64¢</b> Pkg. of 4</p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>	<p><b>HAPPY HOLIDAY HOLLY GARLAND</b></p> <p>9-ft. garland with vinyl plastic leaves and berries.</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$1.50 <b>99¢</b></p> <p>REVCO'S LOW, EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICE</p>

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