

“Clothing Storage Units”

Consumer Product Safety Commission

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CPSC's New Rule

What:

- new mandatory product safety standard that adopts ASTM F2057-23

Purpose:

- Address tip-over related accidents and fatalities associated with CSUs

Effective date:

- September 1, 2023

Covered items:

- clothing storage units (CSUs) manufactured after the effective date

What is a “clothing storage unit”?

“any free-standing furniture item manufactured in the U.S. or imported for use in the U.S. that is *intended* for the storage of clothing, typical of bedroom furniture.”

“a furniture item with drawers and/or hinged doors intended for the storage of clothing typical with bedroom furniture.”

Scope of rule

Standard applies to CSUs which:

- Are 27 inches or greater in height,
- Weigh 30 pounds or greater in mass, and
- Contain 3.2 cubic feet or greater of enclosed storage.

Free-standing CSUs include, but are not limited to:

- chests
- chests of drawers
- drawer chests
- armoires
- chifforobes
- bureaus
- door chests
- dressers

Standard does not apply to shelving units, such as:

- bookcases or entertainment furniture
- office furniture
- dining room furniture
- jewelry armoires
- underbed drawer storage units
- occasional/accent furniture not intended for bedroom use
- laundry storage/sorting units
- built-in units intended to be permanently attached to the building

What are the rule requirements?



CSUs must be tested in line with ASTM testing requirements



Anti-tip device must be included with each item of furniture covered by the ASTM



Interlocking devices, if used, must meet certain specifications



Permanent warning labels

Staying out of scope

Manufacture units not intended for the storage of clothing, typical of bedroom furniture

Manufacture out of scope units (e.g., built-in units, bookcases, office furniture)

Communicate to designers the intent of the product (e.g., kitchen cabinets)

Advertise limited scope of products in catalogues and company website

Sample website language

- “We manufacture [kitchen] cabinets for [permanent] installation on walls or underneath counter tops.”
- “[Kitchen and bathroom] cabinets designed to safely store products intended for both uses.”
- “We offer a variety of built-in cabinets for kitchens and bathrooms.”

Sample contract language

- “The purchased [kitchen/bathroom] cabinets are intended for the installation in a [kitchen/bathroom]. The purchased cabinets are designed to store [kitchen dishes, glassware, dry food products, utensils and other kitchen and bathroom items].”
- “Products sold by [Seller/Manufacturer] must be permanently affixed to a wall or building to function properly and in accordance with design specifications.”
- “All cabinets sold by [Business Name/Seller] are designed and sold for use only in kitchens, and/or bathrooms. Buyer is responsible for compliance obligations associated with any modified uses of cabinets.”