



Sweet dreams for baby and mom

Spilled bottles, leaky nappies and reflux ordeals at three in the morning can try a parent's already-frazzled nerves ... especially when all that spilling and leaking happens in baby's bed.

There's a simple way to make these trying moments that much easier. Save yourself time and hassle by putting a barrier between childhood's little "oopsies" and your baby's mattress, with a cot mattress protector. Without a cot mattress protector, a mishap in the cot could mean hours of washing and trying to dry a foam mattress, and worse still, having to live with the lingering smell of sour milk and baby sick.

On top of reducing laundry time and keeping your baby's mattress free of smells and stains, a cot mattress protector does double duty by putting a barrier between your baby and dust mites, which are a major cause of allergy symptoms.

These tiny scavengers live in warm moist places like cots, feasting on baby's dead skin cells and producing waste that can cause reactions like rhinitis, persistent eczema, and even asthma. Considering that your baby can spend up to 18 hours a day in the cot, that's a lot of exposure to dust mites. An allergen-proof mattress protector is an effective way to prevent dust mites, bacteria and other nasties from breeding in your baby's mattress.

Investing in a cot mattress protector certainly makes good sense. Since not all cot mattress protectors are created equal though, what should you look for when purchasing a mattress protector for your baby?

1. What material is used for the waterproof layer?

Some cheaper mattress protectors use PVC, also known as vinyl, as waterproofing. While effective as waterproofing, PVC noisy to sleep on, and will leave baby hot and sweaty after a nap. Look for a cot mattress protector that "breathes", like Protect-A-Bed, which uses the trademarked Miracle Membrane. This membrane is impenetrable to liquid but not to air, so acts like human skin to moderate your baby's temperature, creating a comfortable environment for a restful, dry sleep.

Some waterproofing substances are also not safe for baby to sleep on. PVC or vinyl for example, is considered the most toxic form of plastic, releasing volatile chemicals into the air. The Protect-A-Bed cot mattress protector is tested for harmful substances according to the global Oeko-Tex Standard 100.

2. What material covers the waterproof layer?

Feel the surface covering of the cot mattress protector; it should be absorbent and soft enough for baby to sleep on even without a sheet, like the Protect-A-Bed cot mattress protector's 100% cotton terrycloth.

3. Does it fit well?

To be effective against leaks and to combat allergens, the cot mattress protector should fit snugly. The Protect-A-Bed cot mattress protector is like a fitted sheet, so will not crinkle with movement while effectively protecting the mattress.

4. How is it cleaned?

A good cot mattress protector should be fully machine washable and able to be tumble-dried without losing its waterproof qualities. The Protect-A-Bed cot mattress protector can be machine washed on hot, and tumble-dried on medium, with a wash durability rating of over 50 washes.

5. Will you have comeback if it fails?

As the world's leading distributor of mattress protectors, Protect-A-Bed is the only brand to offer a two-year guarantee. In the unlikely event that a Protect-A-Bed cot mattress protector should let a leak through, Protect-A-Bed will replace the product.

At a recommended retail price of only R215, the Protect-A-Bed cot mattress protector is a cost-effective way to ensure your baby cuddles down in a clean, dry, allergy-free space.

The Protect-a-Bed cot mattress protector is available in the standard cot mattress size of 130 x 66 x 12 cm (as well as in standard bed sizes for older children).

Your baby deserves a Protect-A-Bed cot mattress protector ... because nothing should come between your child and a healthy, hygienic sleep.

To buy this product or view other products in the Protect-A-Bed range, please visit www.protectabed.co.za and click on the "Buy Now" button.

