## Spot the Risks



# Can you spot 8 things in this picture that may increase the chance of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome?

Is your baby sleeping as safely as possible? This picture shows a baby aged between 1 month and 6 months asleep. Can you identify eight things about the room, cot or the way the baby is sleeping that may increase the chance of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome?



### Did you spot all 8?

- 1 Nursery. The baby is in his own room. The safest place for your baby to sleep for the first six months is in a cot or Moses basket in the same room as you.
- 2 Side Sleeping. It is important that you always put your baby on their back as part of their regular sleep routine never on their front or side.
- 3 Feet-to-foot. Place your baby with their feet to the foot of the cot, so they can't wriggle under the covers or you can also use a baby sleep bag.
- 4 Bedding. The blankets in the cot are loose. It can be dangerous if your baby's head gets covered when they sleep.
- Pillow. If your baby is under one year old never use a pillow, quilt or duvet.
- 6 Hat. Babies need to lose excess heat from their heads so remove hats and extra clothing as soon as you come indoors even if it means waking your baby.
- 7 Dummy. There is no dummy being used which when routinely used can reduce the chance of SIDS. Remember to use every time you settle baby to sleep day and night.
- 8 Radiator. Babies should never sleep next to a radiator or in direct sunlight to avoid overheating.

#### The picture also shows:

**Cot Bumpers.** We do not recommend cot bumpers. Cot bumpers can pose the risk of an accident when your baby becomes mobile. A simple mattress in your cot with no loose bedding or bumpers is the safest sleeping place for a baby.

**Smoking.** The picture doesn't show parents smoking near the baby, but this is a major risk for SIDS. Keep your baby as smoke free as possible and never share a bed with your baby if you or your partner smokes.

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#### The Correct Sleeping Environment

