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## Design space: A safer high chair

By Clare Dowdy



**Product:** BabyBjörn  
high chair  
**Design:** Ergonomidesign  
**Territory:** worldwide

Accidents can occur when infants stand up and fall out of high chairs, or if they push with their feet against a dining table and the high chair topples over.

According to the Swedish consumer agency Konsumentverket, about 800 high chair-related accidents are reported in the country each year.

BabyBjörn, a Swedish manufacturer of children's products, wanted to introduce a safer high chair. Ergonomidesign's solution was to think of the chair's tray as a way of keeping

the child secure, rather than using more conventional straps.

Poorly adjusted straps can be a hazard if children wriggle out of them, or if adults fail to do them up properly.

The integrated tray table is attached to a bar between the child's legs, and can be tilted vertically to allow the child to be placed in the seat. The tray table is then brought forwards and into a horizontal position. It is adjusted to fit snugly against the child's middle – which stops the child being able to stand up – and is secured in place with a twist-and-push safety button.

As with some other high chairs, the tray creates a distance between the dining table and the child so it cannot be reached with the child's feet.

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## The model went on sale in 2010 and so far BabyBjörn has received no reports of accidents.

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