



Office for Product
Safety & Standards



Stay safe this summer

Getting ready for a summer holiday? Many of us will be buying new items to take us through the summer holidays such as phone chargers, sunglasses and even immersion heaters to heat up our paddling pools.

But how do you know you are getting a safe product? Buying a bargain is always tempting, but if it seems too good to be true, it probably is.

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Many so-called bargains are harmful and could cause injury, sometimes severe. Bargain electrical goods, such as pool immersion heaters and phone chargers, may not be manufactured to high standards, and can overheat, catch fire or cause electrocution.

Poor quality sunglasses may only offer low or no protection from the sun's rays.



Top tips for shopping this summer

Compare the price -

If it is a fraction of the price then this could be a warning sign that the product is unsafe.



Check the address on the product -

If there is no address or just a PO box number, it could mean it is poorly manufactured.



Examine the product -

Are the label and logo correct? Genuine branded products have standardised logos, fonts and colours. Spelling mistakes and grammatical errors can also be a warning sign the product is poorly manufactured.



Electrical goods that are poorly manufactured may be missing parts, or the safety certification might be missing from the product label. Check for product registration cards and the manual.



Check if model numbers are listed on the manufacturer's website. Some electrical products can also be registered online with the manufacturer.



If in doubt, check it out. Just because you can buy it, doesn't mean it is safe. Read our guidance in full:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/consumer-product-safety-advice-for-staying-safe>