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A Child's Rocking Horse Will Keep Them Occupied And Amused

By Jodie Philips

A child's rocking horse is a toy for your child in the shape of a horse mounted on rockers. The rockers are essentially springs, which enable a child to rock and ride. The rocking movement entices many a child. It is also popular as a hobbyhorse. These riding toys give your child the illusion of riding a real horse and therefore are a favorite with most children.

Although only a small horse, a child's rocking horse is strong enough for your child to sit and ride. It is in the shape of a typical horse with a head, legs, back, and tail. However, the hooves are along the bottom with curved bow type joints. These joints are similar to those commonly found in a rocking chair. These provide a forward and backward movement and allow your child to rock on the horse.

The child's rocking horse also has proper footrests or straps which serve as stirrups. Your child can place its feet firmly into these stirrups. There are normally two handles at the sides of the horse, coming from the head portion. Your child can hold on to these handles for a firm grip while rocking on the toy.

The earliest known child's rocking horse dates back to the middle Ages. Although initially such horses were for knights to practice jostling, later, Germany made such wooden horses as children's toys in late 17th century or early 18th century. Nevertheless, only the rich could afford such toys for their children.

However, the scene changed later and the child's rocking horse was present in almost every house all over the world. It is now so common that these toys are often in the attic even after the children outgrow such toys. The newer ones are also available in plastic rather than wooden. Despite the popularity of other toys like Barbie dolls, computer games, and robots, children find the simple rocking horse as enticing as ever.

Some of the child's rocking horse also has real horsehair manes. Most of them are padded sufficiently to make them comfortable for your child to sit and rock. Some have reins and cloth saddles too. Colors of today's rocking horses are now far from being the traditional grey or brown. You can choose from an array of bright and vibrant colors. Other accessories are also available in leather, fabric, and similar

others.

Innovative models of the child's rocking horse include the rocking horse toilet. This toy serves the dual-purpose of being a child's toy and helps you teach basic toilet etiquette to your child. Prices for such toys range from \$200 to \$3,500 depending on your choice of the toy. However, always keep a watchful eye on children younger than four years while riding this horse.

Jodie Phillips is a successful Webmaster and publisher of

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and

she provides more rocking horse facts, tips and advice on her website, where you can research in the comfort of your own home.

Rock The Night Away In Your Rocking Chair Cushions

By John McIn

A good rocking chair cushion can add a load of extra comfort to your favorite rocking chair. The gentle rocking motion meant to calm the restless mind and body is enhanced by a cushion which will take some of the hardness of the wood away. You can purchase cushions which are simple tie back chair pads, since they will tie onto the back support bars of the rocking chair, or you can experiment with some of the cushions which are made specifically for them.

The beauty of buying one of the specially made rocking chair cushions is that they often come with a back, too. Instead of just having a nice rest on the lower half of the body, the torso and back can relax as well. Pick one out that is as fancy, frilly or plain as you like. A flower-patterned fabric trimmed with graceful ruffles can enhance the natural curvature of your rocking chair. Or, get a plain or neutral shade so anyone feels invited to have a nice rock. There are many available patterns, colors and themes for any room.

If you find that you enjoy your specially crafted rocking chair cushion, then you might want to consider buying several more in different colors. This will let you change them out with different moods, holidays and seasons. Make sure that you can wash the whole thing, too. Being able to get the cushion clean and fresh will only add to your enjoyment.

There are also rocking chair cushions that come with durable and washable removable covers. This will keep you from having to store several cushions and from wondering if you might warp your cushion in the washing machine. Removable rocking chair cushion covers should come with an easy access zipper for convenient removal.

There are other features to look for in your rocking chair cushions, as well. Be sure to check what kind of padding they use on the inside. Look for resilient latex foam or plush latex foam cushion fillings

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which are as thick as you need them to be. Some of the cushions will include a fabric wrap—over for the tops and sides of your rocking chair. This is a nice feature for creating a very cozy and homey feel. Tufted cotton gives cushions a breathable, patterned texture. Some thicker cushions will be made with a springy latex foam and come in a durable, but soft corduroy cover. Also, consider velvet rocking chair cushions for a touch of lavishness. These will also work wonderfully if one is trying to fit a rocking chair into a more formal living area.

The only thing to look out for besides the quality of the cushion and fabric cover is whether you are ordering the right size. Some cushions are specially designed for larger styles of rocking chairs. Once you know that you have picked out the right size and thickness of a cushion, you can do the fun part of picking out which pattern, color or theme you want for your room or patio.

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