

Safety Tips:

General Safety (All Ages)



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Childhood Injury Prevention

Poison

- Store all household products, including bleach, detergents, dishwashing liquid and cleaning solutions out of children's sight and reach, or use safety locks on cabinets within reach. Remember that the storage cabinets under sinks are often at the eye level of young kids.
- Read product labels to find out what can be hazardous to kids. Makeup, personal care products, plants, pesticides, lead, art supplies, alcohol and carbon monoxide are all dangerous.
- Never place a poisonous item in something other than its original container to avoid any mistakes or misuse.
- Program the toll-free Poison Help Number, 1-800-222-1222 into your home and cell phone. Also place the number on your refrigerator or another place where it will be easily accessible to babysitters and caregivers. This number should also be used in case of a medication emergency.

Medication

- Put all medication away and out of sight of children, including your own. This includes such items as eye drops, vitamins, and diaper rash remedies. Consider placing in high cabinets that can lock, especially if you have young children.
- Use the dosing device that comes with the medication and follow dosing instructions.

Opioid Prescriptions

If your child's doctor has prescribed an opioid (narcotic) medicine for pain here are some important reminders about opioids:

- Only give your child this medicine as prescribed by your child's doctor.
- Do NOT let anyone else except the child named on the bottle take this medicine.
- This medication is addictive and should ALWAYS be kept locked and under parental control.
- Discuss a plan to gradually stop this medicine with your child's doctor.
- If you need a refill of this medication, ask your doctor's office at least 3 days in advance.
- Get rid of the unused portion of this medicine in one of the following ways:
 - Visit the website <https://dontrushtoflush.org/> for places to dispose of it;
 - Take it to a law enforcement office for disposal;
 - Take it back to your pharmacy, if they dispose of leftover drugs;
 - As a last resort, mix the left over medication with coffee grounds or kitty litter, seal tightly in a plastic bag, and throw in the trash.

Preventing TV and Furniture Tip-Overs

- Mount flat-screen TVs to the wall to prevent them from toppling off stands. Follow the manufacturer's instructions to ensure that you have a secure fit.
- If you have a large, heavy, old-style cathode ray tube (CRT) TV, place it on a low, stable piece of furniture. If you no longer use your CRT TV, consider recycling it.
- Use brackets, braces or wall straps to secure unstable or top-heavy furniture to the wall.

Important Note:

Review all emergency procedures and contacts with all of your children's caregivers.

Carbon Monoxide

- Make sure your home has a carbon monoxide alarm.
- As with smoke alarms, install a carbon monoxide alarm on every level of your home, especially near sleeping areas, and keep them at least 15 feet away from fuel-burning appliances.
- Don't use a grill, generator or camping stove inside your home, garage or near a window.
- If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Don't leave a car, SUV or motorcycle engine running inside a garage.
- If using gasoline-powered devices, store gasoline in a locked location where children cannot access it. Keep only small quantities in an approved container that has child safety features.
- Keep gasoline away from any source of heat, spark or flame. Even common household appliances such as water heaters and clothes dryers can start a gasoline fire. Be sure to store your gasoline away from anything that could ignite it.

Gun Safety

- Store guns in a locked location, unloaded, out of the reach and sight of children.
- Store ammunition in a separate locked location, out of the reach and sight of children.
- Keep the keys and combinations hidden.
- When a gun is not in its lock box, keep it in your line of sight.
- Make sure all guns are equipped with effective, child-resistant gun locks.
- If a visitor has a gun in a backpack, briefcase, handbag or an unlocked car, provide them with a locked place to hold it while they are in your home.



Stranger Safety

- Teach your child never go anywhere with, take gifts from, or talk to strangers.
- Place your child in meaningful and captivating after school activities.
- Child trafficking is a serious issue. Teach your children about the methods many traffickers use to lure in children.
- Talk to your children about their online privacy. Many traffickers and abductors are using the internet to gain the trust of children.



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