

CHILD SAFETY GUIDE



A Checklist for New Parents



safe home safe baby



Protect your child from fires and burns



- 1 Install UL-listed smoke alarms on every floor and in living rooms, every bedroom, outside of sleeping areas and at the top and bottom of stairways.
- 2 Replace alarms in your home that are more than 10 years old. If you don't know when your alarms were installed, replace them.
- 3 Create and practice a fire escape plan that includes two exits out of each room with details such as who will assist your baby/child. Should a fire occur, go to your outdoor meeting place immediately and call the fire department from there. Never re-enter your house.
- 4 Put all lighters and matches out of your child's reach and view
- 5 Turn the temperature on your home's water heater down to 120° F to prevent scalds. Test bath water before bathing baby. It should be no more than 100° F. If it feels hot to you, it will burn your baby.
- 6 Install special tub spouts and shower heads that prevent hot water burns.
- 7 Cover unused electrical sockets with outlet plugs or guards.

CONSIDER THIS:

Consider Wireless Interconnected Smoke Alarms. These alarms link together so when one alarm sounds, all alarms in the home sound, providing more escape time for your family.



Protect your child from choking and suffocation



- 1 Lay babies on their backs to sleep.
- 2 Do not put pillows, blankets, or toys in the crib with your baby.
- 3 Do not hang mobiles or other objects above the crib that have strings or ribbons on them.
- 4 Scour the floor of every room in your home for objects such as coins, screws, buttons, and other small items.
- 5 Read the packaging on toys and games to verify they are age-appropriate for your child.
- 6 Do not let your child have small round food like peanuts or hard candy.
- 7 Always cut your toddler's food into small bites.
- 8 Cut all loops on window blind cords and make sure they are out of your child's reach.



CONSIDER THIS:

Any item small enough to fit through a toilet paper tube can be a choking hazard for your infant.



Protect your child from falls



- 1 Install safety gates at the top and bottom of staircases. Consider gates that screw into the wall. They are more secure than pressure gates.
- 2 Always use the safety straps provided for your baby on car seats, strollers, high chairs, and swings.
- 3 Keep cribs and furniture away from windows.
- 4 Install window guards or window stops on all upper windows. Familiarize yourself with how to open these windows in the event of a fire.
- 5 Make sure there is a 9-12 inch protective layer of material (like mulch or wood chips) on the ground beneath playground equipment.



CONSIDER THIS:

When purchasing window guards, look for ones that voluntarily meet the standards set by the American Society for Testing and Materials. These guards are designed to have simple emergency-release mechanisms in case of a fire.



Protect your child from poisons



- 1 Identify poisonous substances in your home by looking for words such as "Caution," "Warning," or "Danger" on the packaging.
- 2 Take all medicines and medical supplies out of purses, pockets, and drawers.
- 3 Make sure all poisons are locked up in a cabinet out of a child's reach and have child safety caps on all poisonous products.
- 4 Post the Poison Control Center number next to every phone in your home. [1-800-222-1222]
- 5 Have all your gas appliances checked every year. If used improperly or not working correctly, fuel burning appliances can emit carbon monoxide (CO), a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas that can be fatal to you and your baby in minutes.
- 6 Install at least one UL-listed CO alarm on each floor and near sleeping areas. It is the only safe way to detect CO in your home. Visit www.KnowAboutCO.com for information on CO Safety and code requirements in your area.



CONSIDER THIS:

Install a combination smoke/CO alarm. Kidde's Talking Alarm includes a voice warning that clearly announces "fire" or "carbon monoxide," alerting you to the hazard in your home.



Protect your child around water



- 1 Never leave your child unattended in the bathtub or the pool.
- 2 Stay within reach of your child when they are in or near water.
- 3 Install toilet lid locks on all toilets in your home.
- 4 Turn all large buckets bottom-up to prevent them from collecting water.
- 5 Install a fence around your pool or hot tub, and always keep the gate locked and shut.
- 6 Never rely on personal flotation devices or swimming lessons to protect your child.



CONSIDER THIS:

Pool isolation fencing could prevent 50 to 90 percent of childhood residential pool drownings and near drownings. Door alarms, pool alarms and automatic pool covers, when used correctly, may add extra protection.



Childproofing Checklist:

Throughout the Home

- Smoke alarms
- Carbon monoxide alarms
- Fire extinguishers
- Escape ladders
- Safety gates
- Window guards/
window stops
- Cabinet locks
- Outlet protectors
- Corner protectors
and edge cushions
- Cord shorteners
- TV and DVD player guards
- Monitors
- Fireplace guard
- Doorknob covers
- Finger pinch guards

Bathroom

- Toilet lid locks
- Scald-preventing
shower heads/tub spouts
- Bathtub soft spout covers
- Non-skid mats
- Locks for the
medicine cabinet
- Bath thermometer

Kitchen

- Appliance locks/latches
- Stove and burner guards
- Stove knob covers
- Refrigerator latch

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This information is brought to you by Kidde

Sources: Home Safety Council, the National Fire Protection Association,
the Centers for Disease Control and Safe Kids Worldwide, and Prevention