

Kohl's Injury Prevention Program

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Home Safety Checklist

Kitchen

- Poison control and emergency numbers are posted near telephones.
- Back burners are used and pot handles are turned to the back of the stove when cooking.
- Appliance cords are kept wound up, out of children's reach and unplugged when not in use. Covers are placed over all electrical outlets.
- A fire extinguisher is easily accessible.
- Guards are installed on stove knobs.
- All detergent, household products, pet supplies, medicines and vitamins are locked out of children's reach.
- Knives and other sharp utensils are stored in drawers or cabinets secured with safety latches.
- Round, hard foods like grapes, raw carrots, hard candies, nuts and raisins are kept away from young children.

Bathroom

- Children are never left alone in the bathroom, even for a few seconds.
- Safety locks are placed on all toilet lids.
- The water heater thermostat is set to 120 degrees F or lower.
- Electrical appliances are kept away from water and out of children's reach. Covers are placed over all unused electrical outlets.
- All medicines, vitamins, cosmetics, razors and scissors are kept locked out of children's reach.

Family Room

- Smoke alarms are installed in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and every level of the home. Alarms are tested once a month, batteries are replaced at least once a year and when the alarm chirps, warning that the battery is low.
- Several fire escape routes from each room and the home are planned and practiced and outside meeting place is identified.
- Safety gates are used at the top and bottom of stairs. Gates at the top of stairs should be mounted to the wall.
- All window blind and drapery cords are tied up or the ends are cut and retrofitted with safety tassels.
- Children play with age-appropriate toys according to safety labels. A certified small parts tester can be used to determine if a toy or part of a toy is a choking hazard. You can also use a toilet paper roll; items that fit through the opening should be kept away from children.
- Poisonous plants are kept out of children's reach.
- All firearms are stored unloaded and locked up, with ammunition locked up in a separate location, out of children's reach.

Bedroom/Nursery

- A smoke alarm is properly installed and maintained in every sleeping area.
- Carbon monoxide alarms are installed and maintained in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.
- The crib meets national safety standards (JPMA certification label). There is no more than 2 3/8 inches of space between the slats or spindles and no cornerpost extensions or protrusions greater than 1/16 inch. Use a soda can to measure 2 3/8 inches of space between slats. If the can passes through the slats, the crib does not meet safety standards and must be replaced.
- All toys, pillows, soft bedding and plastic materials have been removed from the crib.
- All window blind and drapery cords are tied up or the ends are retrofitted with safety tassels.
- Window guards are installed on all windows unless designated as emergency fire exits.
- Tall and heavy furniture is secured to walls and sharp edges are cushioned.
- Safety covers are placed over all unused electrical outlets.