

Child Home Safety Checklist

Every parent wants their child to be safe and grow up happy and healthy. You can make small changes in your home to keep your child safe. This checklist will give you tips on how to make your home safer for your child.

Bathroom

Prevent falls

- Keep floors dry and free from spills
- Use only non-slip, mats with rubber backing in your home

Prevent burns

- Finish filling the tub before you put your child in the water
- Turn off the hot water tap before the cold water because it leaves the faucet cold
- Test the bathwater to make sure it is not too hot, before you place your child in the tub
- Store curling irons/hair tools and razors out of reach of children

Prevent poisoning

- Keep medications locked up and out of reach of children
- Keep cleaning products locked up and out of reach of children

Prevent drowning

- Close the bathroom door, even when not in use
- Keep the toilet lid down or latched
- Empty the bathwater right after use

Bedroom

Prevent falls

- Only allow children over 6 to use the top bed of a bunkbed

- Keep furniture away from windows
- Keep windows and patio doors locked
- Keep diaper change items within reach of change table
- Keep children's favourite items on low shelves where they can reach them
- Make sure your child does not jump on the bed or other furniture

Kitchen

Prevent falls

- Keep your child from climbing up on the kitchen table or counter

Prevent burns

- Keep kettles, hot foods and liquids at the back of the counter
- Place your child in a safe spot while you are cooking or drinking hot drinks
- Use mugs with lids when you are having hot drinks
- Cook on the back burners of the stove and turn pot handles inward
- Cool hot food before feeding it to your child

Prevent poisoning

- Keep cleaning products locked up and out of reach of children
- Load and unload the dishwasher when your child is not nearby

General Home Safety

Prevent falls

- Move furniture away from windows
- Secure furniture like a bookcase or TV to the wall
- Install stair gates at top and bottom of all staircases in the home
- Keep children from jumping on furniture
- Keep doors and windows leading to balconies closed and locked

Prevent burns

- Set water heater temperature at 49°C or 120°F
- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home and near sleeping areas
- Place fire screens or gates around fireplaces

Prevent poisoning

- Remove or keep poisonous plants out of reach of children
- Store cleaning and other poisonous products (laundry soaps, fertilizers, etc) out of sight and out of reach of children
- Keep medication and edible cannabis products out of reach

Prevent drowning

- Empty water from kiddie pools and pails after use
- Keep children away from ponds, pools and streams near your home if you are not within arm's reach
- Never leave your child alone in the tub

** Remember these tips when you are visiting other people's homes as well



Durham Health Connection Line
905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729

durham.ca/childsafety

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.

