

Baby Safety Basics



**SAFE
K:DS**
WORLDWIDE®

Did you know, on average over 1,600 infants and babies under 2 years of age die of a preventable injury each year in the U.S.? It is estimated that another 27,616 are hospitalized and over 600,000 are seen in the ER. Unintentional injuries in this age group are a serious yet preventable health issue.

Every parent knows babies are going to explore, reach, roll and tumble. It's all part of being a baby, and we wouldn't want it any other way. **But there are little things you can do to help your baby avoid serious injury at home, at play and on the way.**

We hope this guide will make it easy for you.



Safe Sleep for Infants



- 1 Place babies **on their back** for naps and at night until they are 1 year old.

Make sure babies sleep on a firm, flat surface in their own crib, bassinet or play yard.

- 2 Choose a firm mattress and fitted sheet for baby's crib, bassinet or play yard.

Remove toys, blankets, pillows, bumper pads and other accessories.

- 3 Dress baby in a wearable blanket or onesie.

A loose blanket could cover baby's airway or make their body temperature too high while they sleep.



- 4 Share your room, not your bed.

Place baby's crib, bassinet or play yard in your bedroom instead of letting baby sleep in the same bed with you.

- 5 Follow the manufacturer's instructions to assemble your crib, bassinet or play yard.

Make sure to complete and submit the product registration card to learn about any recalls or safety updates.



Water & Bath

Safety



- Watch children when they are in or near water.

Keep infants and toddlers within arm's reach of an adult during bath time.

- Make sure you have everything you need for bath time before placing your child in the tub.

Gather towels, clothes, soap and toys before bath time begins so that you don't have to leave your child alone.

- Before placing your child in the bath, check the water temperature with the inside of your wrist.

The water should feel warm to the touch, not hot.

- Close lids and doors.

Keep toilet lids and doors to bathrooms and laundry rooms closed when not in use.

Poison Prevention



- Store **household products** out of children's reach and sight.



Young kids are eye-level with items under kitchen and bathroom sinks, so keep cleaning supplies, laundry detergents, hand sanitizers and personal care products where children can't reach them or use child safety locks on the cupboards where they are stored.

- Keep household products in their original containers and read product labels.

Use and store products according to the product label.

- Save the Poison Help number in your phone and post it visibly at home: 1-800-222-1222.

Specialists at poison control centers provide free, confidential, expert medical advice 24 hours a day. They can answer questions and help with poison emergencies.

- Keep all **medicine** out of children's reach and sight, even medicine you use every day.



Kids often get into medicine and vitamins if it is kept in places within their reach, like in purses, on nightstands or on counters.

- Use a medicine schedule to keep track of your child's medicine.

When other caregivers are giving your child medicine, write clear instructions about which medicine to give, how much to give and when to give it.

- Remember that child-resistant packaging is not childproof.

So put medicine away after every use, even if you need to give another dose in a few hours.



Choking Prevention

Round food like hotdogs, grapes and cheese sticks can easily block a baby's airway. Cut these foods lengthwise, then again to less than ½ of an inch.



Food

- **Cut food for toddlers into tiny pieces, no larger than ½ of an inch.** Cook hard foods like carrots to make them easily chewable.
- **Avoid hard or sticky foods like hard candy, nuts, marshmallows or popcorn.** Thinly spread foods like peanut butter on bread rather than in a clump.

Toys, Small Parts and Magnets

- **Separate toys by age and keep small parts and game pieces away from young children.** Toys intended for older children may pose a risk to younger, curious siblings.
- **Consider your baby's age and development when purchasing a toy.** Read the instructions and warning labels to make sure it's just right for your child.
- **Keep small magnets away from children.** These include magnets found in construction sets, children's toys, stress-relieving adult desk toys and refrigerator magnets.



When a child swallows a button battery, their saliva triggers an electrical current, causing a chemical burn in their esophagus.

Button Batteries

- **Keep small electronics or devices that use button batteries out of children's reach.** This includes small remote controls, key fobs, flameless candles, some toys, musical greeting cards/books. Store loose button batteries where children can't reach them.
- **If a child swallows a button battery, go to the emergency room immediately.** Do not let the child eat or drink and do not induce vomiting.

Safe Play



- Create a safe place for babies to play. When it's time to play, look at the rooms in your home from your child's eye-level.
- Remove small objects like toy parts and coins and keep them out of children's reach and sight.
- Move cords and strings, including those attached to window blinds, where your young child can't reach them.
- Check old and new toys regularly for damage that may cause small pieces to break off.
- Register all home child products when purchased and check for recalls if using previously used products.
- Stay up-to-date on recalls. Visit www.safekids.org/recalls for more information about recalls related to children's toys and products.





Preventing Falls

& TV/Furniture Tipovers

1

Watch children around balconies and windows.

Window screens are not strong enough to hold a child's weight, so install window guards or stops to prevent falls. Know how to open the window in case of emergency.

2

Secure unstable furniture and televisions.

Use anti-tip brackets or wall straps to secure unstable or top-heavy furniture to the wall. Mount flat-panel TVs to the wall and put large, box-style TVs on a low, stable piece of furniture.



3

Prevent falling.

Keep babies strapped in when using highchairs, infant carriers, swings, and strollers. Stay within arm's reach when your baby is on higher surfaces like beds, sofas, or changing tables.

4

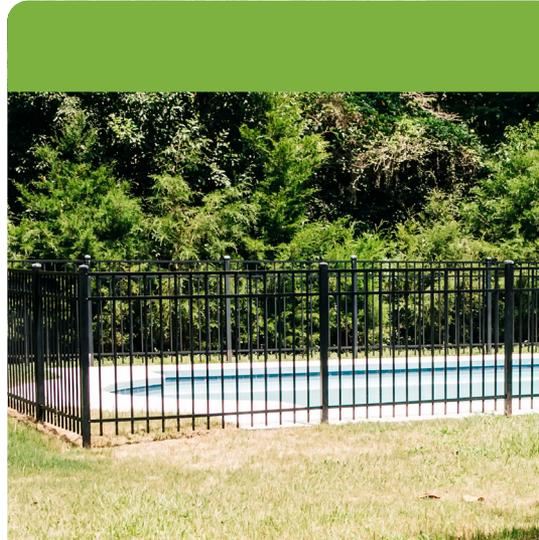
Use safety gates at the top and bottom of all staircases.

Read the manufacturer's instructions and warning labels to make sure you have the right gates for your needs.

Safety Around Pools



- Install fences around home pools. Pool fences should surround all sides of the pool and be at least 4 feet tall with a self-closing and self-latching gate.
- Empty tubs, buckets, containers and kids' pools immediately after use. Store them upside down so they don't collect water.
- Know what to do in an emergency and learn CPR.





Child Passenger

Safety

1

Choose the right car seat for your child. The car seat label will help you make sure it is the right seat for your child's age, weight, height and level of development.



2

All infants and toddlers should ride in a rear-facing car seat as long as possible, until they reach the highest weight or height allowed by their car seat manufacturer. Most convertible seats have limits that will permit children to ride rear-facing for 2 years or more.



3

Use and install your car seat according to the directions. Follow the labels on the car seat and read the car seat manual carefully. Use Safe Kids Worldwide's online Ultimate Car Seat Guide (www.safekids.org/guide) to get help based on your child's age and weight.



Safety In & Around

Cars



- Help prevent heatstroke deaths by never leaving your child alone in a car, not even for a minute.

Cars can heat up to dangerous levels in just a short amount of time, even on mild, sunny days – and cracking a window doesn't help.

- Create reminders when driving with a child in the back seat so you don't forget they are there.

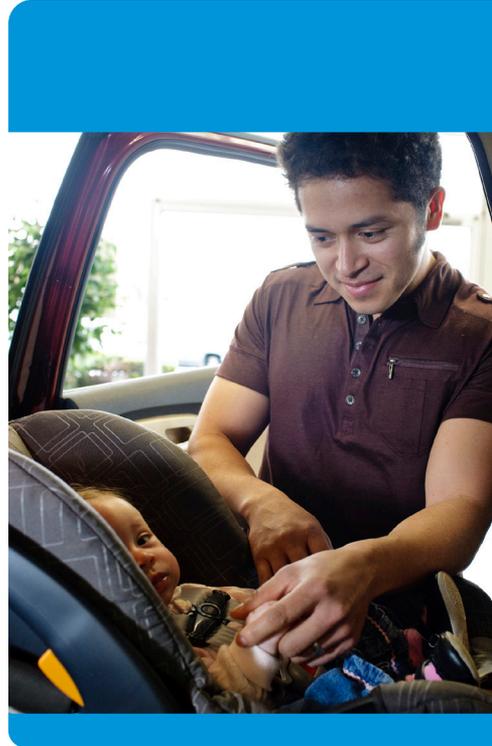
Place something like a purse or phone near your child that is needed at your final destination. This is especially important if your routine changes.

- Keep car doors and trunks locked and keep key fobs out of reach.

Kids as young as 2-3 years old are known to climb into unlocked cars and trunks to play, but they can't always get out.

- Take action. If you see a child alone in a car, call 911.

Emergency personnel want you to call. They are trained to respond to these situations.



Emergency Contact Information

Police, Fire Department or Ambulance: **9-1-1**

Poison Help Number: **1-800-222-1222**

Doctor: _____

Family Member: _____

Family Member: _____

Friend/Neighbor: _____

Helpful Resources

SAFE KIDS WORLDWIDE

For tips on how to keep kids safe and to find a local coalition near you, visit www.safekids.org.

SAFE KIDS ULTIMATE CAR SEAT GUIDE

Visit www.safekids.org/guide for tips and videos on how to install car seats and booster seats.

SAFE KIDS LAW TRACKER

To find child safety laws in each state, visit www.safekids.org/state-law-tracker.

AMERICAN RED CROSS

To sign up for classes on first aid, CPR, swimming or water safety, visit www.redcross.org/take-a-class.

JUVENILE PRODUCTS MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

Visit <https://www.jpma.org/page/parents> for help in choosing the best baby products for your family.

CAR SEAT RECALLS

Visit <https://www.nhtsa.gov/recalls> or download NHTSA's "SaferCar" app

PRODUCT RECALLS

Sign up for children's products recall alerts at <https://go.pardot.com/l/957122/2021-12-21/yfl>



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