



## HOME SAFETY MEASURES FOR CHILDREN 0-4 YEARS

### General Safety

- Install electrical safety switch to prevent electrocution
- Use safety plugs in unused power points
- Switch off and unplug appliances when not in use and store cords out of reach of children
- Install barrier gates on steps and stairs to prevent falls
- Always supervise your dog with your young child. Never leave a child alone with a dog, no matter how friendly it is
- Ensure floor covering are free from trip hazards
- Secure blind and curtain cords and out of reach from children to avoid strangulation
- Ensure heaters, open fires and candles screened with a secured guards or inaccessible to children
- Check if your home is child safe by using the Kidsafe checklist (available online).

### Kitchen

- Keep dangerous household goods (eg. cleaning products, matches, lighters) and items (eg. knives, scissors, medicine) in locked cupboards and drawers
- Keep appliances out of reach from children
- Use front hot plates or stove and turn pot handles around to prevent children touching hot plates or pulling hot pots
- Place a fire blanket and a fire extinguisher near an exit

### Bathroom

- Keep dangerous items (eg. medicine, cleaning products, shampoo, soaps, cosmetics) and equipment (eg. razors, hair dryers, straighteners/curler) locked away or out of reach
- Set temperature of hot water in your bathroom at a maximum of 50 degrees or install tap protectors
- Put non-slip surface or non-slip mats
- Keep bath empty when not in use

### Laundry

- Store chemicals (eg. cleaners, bleaches, detergents) and equipment (eg. iron etc) out of reach or in lockable cupboards
- Keep all buckets, sink and washing machine empty when not in use
- Ensure washing machines and dryer doors are securely closed and switched off
- Clean lint filter in the dryer regularly

### Bedrooms

- Children under 9 years should not sleep in bunk beds and cots needs to meet the Australian Standard



- Keep cot free from items that can cause choking and strangulation such as toys, blind cords
- Keep all toys where children can reach them without climbing on furniture
- Ensure heavy furniture such as bookcases and drawers secured to the wall to prevent them from tipping over if children climbs on them
- Arrange furniture to avoid trip hazards and collisions

### **Living areas**

- Cover sharp edges on tables and furniture with soft covers
- Protect glass doors with safety film or colourful stickers if it is not made of safety glass
- Put alcohol, cigarettes, ashtrays, matches, lighters, hot drinks and other dangerous items out of reach
- Keep heaters at least 1 meter away from curtains, furniture or other flammable materials
- Secure large and heavy furniture to prevent them toppling over onto children
- Ensure all breakable items are removed or moved so that they are out of reach from children
- Arrange furniture to allow access and safe from trip hazards or collisions
- Position furniture away from windows

### **Driveway and Garage**

- Separate play area from the driveway
- Restrict access to the driveway and the street/road
- Lock all vehicles and remove ignition keys
- Have correct child restraints fitted in your car
- Use child-proof locks on car doors
- Lock garage/workshop/shed

### **Backyard**

- Supervise your children at all times when playing outside
- Install a safety fence with a functioning self-latching gate around the swimming pool or spa and remove items near the fence that could be used to climb on
- Ensure backyard is free from drowning hazards eg. uncovered ponds, pet's water containers, buckets, tanks, troughs, dams etc
- Ensure play equipment is stable secure and in good condition
- Lock away all garden tools, movers, chainsaws and other dangerous tools
- Keep all chemicals eg. pesticides, paints and other poisons out of reach of children



**Questions:**

1. How do you keep children safe around pet dog?

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2. How do you safely use your hot plates/stove and pots/pans when cooking?

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3. How do you prevent children from slipping on bathroom floors?

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4. List 3 things in the laundry that you need to keep away from children:

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5. What do you need to do to keep cots safe?

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6. How do you prevent injury caused by sharp edges of furniture?

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7. Please name 2 safety measures related to vehicles:

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8. How do you ensure children safety around a swimming pool?

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