

Child Safety Checklist

Keep your home safe for babies and children. Share this checklist with anyone who cares for your child. **Keep emergency phone numbers** (doctor, fire department, poison control and 911) **close to the phone**. Teach your older children how and when to call 911 or other emergency numbers.

Watch Your Baby Closely

- _____ Never leave a child alone at home, in a bathtub or in a car, even when the child is sleeping.
- _____ Never leave a baby on a raised surface such as a bed, changing table, or sofa. Baby could move or roll and fall.
- _____ Do not leave a baby alone with pets.

All Rooms of the House

- _____ Put safety latches on all cabinets and drawers that contain sharp or breakable objects, chemicals or medicines.
- _____ Put outlet covers on all electrical outlets.
- _____ Put a baby gate at the top and bottom of all stairways.
- _____ Cover corners and sharp edges of furniture with corner protectors.
- _____ Keep items such as electrical cords and plants out of children's reach.
- _____ Put screens around hot radiators, stoves, kerosene or space heaters.

Nursery and Clothing Safety

- _____ Buy baby furniture with the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) or the Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association (JPMA) label.
- _____ Use a crib mattress that fits snugly. Secure side rail latches when up.
- _____ Do not lay a baby on a waterbed, pillow or other soft surface that could suffocate the baby.
- _____ Place baby on back or side to sleep.
- _____ Remove drawstrings in clothing. Do not put necklaces, rings or bracelets on babies.
- _____ Use flame retardant pajamas.
- _____ Never prop a bottle during a feeding.
- _____ Never tie a ribbon or cord around a baby's neck to hold a pacifier.

Toy Safety

- _____ Keep small objects away from baby. If objects can fit into a toilet paper roll, they are too small for your baby.

- _____ Check toys to be sure they are for the right age of your child.
- _____ Buy flame resistant, washable, non-toxic toys.

Kitchen and Bathroom Safety

- _____ Keep hot drinks and foods, knives, and electrical objects out of children's reach.
- _____ Adjust the temperature on the water heater to 120° F or less.
- _____ Use a baby tub for at least the first 5 months. Then use a tub seat when your baby is big enough to bathe in a tub. Never leave your child alone in the tub.
- _____ Check that the bath water is warm, not hot and use only a small amount of water in the tub.

Medicine Safety

- _____ Store medicines and vitamins out of children's reach in a locked drawer or cabinet.
- _____ Never give home remedies or medicine to your baby without first checking with a doctor.
- _____ Check with your baby's doctor for the right medicine dose for baby's age or weight.

Car Safety

- _____ Always use approved child safety seats for your child's age and weight. Place babies in a rear-facing seat. Check with your local Children's Hospital, health department or fire department to have someone check that the seat is in the car the right way.
- _____ Never hold a baby or child on your lap while riding in a car or truck.
- _____ Everyone in the car should wear a seat belt.

Fire Prevention

- _____ Keep matches and lighters out of your child's reach.
- _____ Check smoke detectors each month and change the batteries each year.
- _____ Plan more than one escape route from each room in the house.

Other Safety Measures

- _____ Keep a bulb syringe with baby's supplies and know how to use it.
- _____ Do not let anyone smoke or drink hot liquids while holding your baby.
- _____ Put sunscreen on your child. Put a hat on babies less than 6 months old.
- _____ Consider taking an infant/Child CPR course and first aid class.