



Home Safety Checklist

Check through your home one room at a time. Tick the box if the item requires further attention. Write down any changes you need to do to make your home safer and plan when to make these changes.

Throughout the home:

- Are the floor coverings sound with no tripping hazards?
- Are there barriers near stairs to stop falls?
- Are there railings children could climb?
- Is there a safety switch installed to prevent electrocution?
- Are there safety plugs fitted in power points?
- Have any potentially poisonous houseplants been removed?
- Are heaters and fans guarded?
- Are heavy pieces of furniture secured?(bookshelves, stove, tv, cabinets)
- Is there a dog mixing with children?
- Have extra long cords been shortened or extra cords hidden?
- Is there a list of emergency numbers?
- (Poisons Information Centre 13 11 26)**
- Have you a home escape plan in case of a fire?
- Other things I have noticed
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Kitchen:

- Do your appliances have shortened cords that do not dangle over the bench?
- Do you use the back hot plates and turn pot handles around to prevent pans being pulled from the stove?
- Are matches, knives and other sharp objects stored out of sight and out of reach of children?
- Are plastic bags out of reach or tied in the middle?
- Do you have a fire blanket, fire extinguisher or woolly blanket accessible?

- Is the microwave positioned out of children's reach?
- Are poisons locked up high out of children's reach and out of sight?
- Is the high chair stable and does it have a harness?
- Is the kettle out of reach?
- Other things I have noticed
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Living Rooms:

- Is the heating system guarded?
- Do the power points need covers?
- Has the furniture any sharp corners?
- Are blind cords out of reach?
- Are glass doors protected with safety film, colour stickers or made of safety glass?
- Are rugs and mats secured with non-slip backing and in good order?
- Are hot drinks placed well out of reach of children?
- Are heaters kept away from curtains, furniture or other flammable materials?
- Is alcohol stored in a child resistant cupboard?
- Are there safety guards attached to the wall for heaters, fire places and fuel stoves?
- Are cigarettes, ashtrays, matches and lighters out of reach?
- Other things I have noticed
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Child's Bedroom:

- Are the curtain cords secured, out of sight and out of reach?
- Is everything I need close to the change table?
- Are the cot rails between 50mm and 85mm apart?
- Are the toys kept close where children can reach them without climbing?
- Are the toys in good condition and appropriate for a child's age?
- Is there a nightlight?
- Do bunks have adequate rails to prevent falls?
- Is all medication out of sight and out of reach?
- Is furniture free from sharp corners?
- Are appliances and cords out of reach of children?
- Other things I have noticed
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Bathroom and Laundry:

- Do I have a device installed to lower the temperature of water to 50 degrees?
- Can I fit child resistant tap covers?
- Are poisons including cosmetics locked up, out of sight and out of reach?
- Are razors and hair dryers stored out of sight and out of reach?
- Is the bath emptied immediately after use?
- Is the nappy bucket closed with a firm lid and placed up high?
- Does the floor, bath and shower have a non-slip surface?

Is an electric floor heater used here?

Other things I have noticed

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Outside:

- Are pesticides, paints, chemicals and other poisons stored in their original containers locked up out of reach and out of sight of children?
- Are there drowning hazards? (fish ponds, wading pools, buckets of water open drains)
- Is the pool or spa isolated on all four sides with a fence and gate that is self-closing?
- Is play equipment stable and in good condition?
- If equipment is over 500mm from the ground there is a soft surface to a depth of 250mm to cushion falls?
- Are pathways clear of tripping hazards?
- Are garden statues and birdbaths cemented in to prevent a crushing hazard?
- Is the play area separate from the driveway?
- Is the garden free from poisonous plants?
- Are branches pruned above eye level to avoid eye injury?
- Other things I have noticed

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