



Home Safety Tips

Your world changes when you have a baby. Your world changes even more when your baby starts exploring the world around her. Suddenly, danger lurks around every corner. Fortunately, there are steps you can take to help protect your baby in your home.

In the kitchen

- Use child safety locks to keep detergents, pesticides, cleaning products, and any other toxic household chemicals out of baby's reach.
- Store knives and other sharp tools, such as food-processor blades, in latched drawers or high cabinets. Peelers, graters, and other kitchen utensils can also be sharp and should be treated just like knives.
- Move the toaster, coffeemaker, and all other electrical appliances out of your child's reach. Unplug them and hide the cords when they're not in use.
- Put latches on the doors to the oven, microwave, and refrigerator. Install knob covers on all stove knobs so your child can't turn on the burners.
- If it's too difficult to watch your baby and cook at the same time, put him in a play yard nearby so he can be part of the action without getting underfoot.

In the bathroom

- Cover the bathtub spout with an inflatable safety gadget to prevent bruising and burns.
- Never leave a child unattended in the bathtub for even a second.
- Always empty the tub or basin because a child can drown in even a couple of inches of water.
- Install a lid lock on toilets.
- Use safety locks on medicine cabinets and wherever hazardous substances such as cleaning products are kept.
- Remember that adult items like mouthwash and cologne can be dangerous for young children and need to be kept out of reach as well.
- Use a non-slip bath mat both in the tub and on the floor.
- A safety tap guard will prevent scalds from children turning on the hot tap.

In your living room

- Examine your furniture. Cover all sharp edges and corners with protective guards.
- Test your TV and other home entertainment equipment for toppling risks.
- Use guards to keep little fingers from pressing buttons and inserting items into places they don't belong.
- Use cord shorteners to keep baby from playing with long cords.



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In the bedroom

- Use a nightlight to provide comfort and reassurance in the dark.
- Use a teething guard on the crib.
- Keep mobiles safely out of baby's reach.
- Keep cords from your blinds out of baby's reach. They pose both choking and strangulation hazards.
- When your baby graduates from the crib to a big-kid bed, use properly installed rails to keep him from falling out of bed.