

Home Safety Checklist

Consider making changes to any items below that receive a **NO** response for a safer home!

The most effective way to keep your kids safe is to supervise them closely and teach them from infancy about potential hazards around the home.



HOME ENVIRONMENT

	YES	NO
Is there an electrical safety switch to prevent electric shock?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the hot water delivery temperature for your bathroom set at a maximum of 50 ^o c?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have smoke alarms located between the sleeping areas and the rest of the house?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are safety plugs fitted in unused power points?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you removed any potentially poisonous houseplants?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are electrical appliances, plugs and cords in good condition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have long cords been bound with twist ties or extra cord hidden?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are all button batteries secure in car keys, remotes and toys?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are candles out of reach and not left to burn unattended?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there barriers or gates on steps, stairs and changes in floor levels to prevent falls?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are railings free of footholds that children could climb?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is all top heavy or unstable furniture, such as bookcases, chests of drawers, televisions and TV cabinets secured to prevent them from tipping over if climbed on?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a home fire escape plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



BATHROOM

	YES	NO
Are there non-slip mats or handrails in the bath?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are sharp objects, (eg razors), kept in a locked cupboard out of reach of children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are hair dryers and electric razors unplugged when not in use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are medicines in a lockable cupboard? "Lock Up and Away"	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there a lock on the toilet or bathroom door?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the bath water temperature always "tested" before putting the child in (start with cold, then hot, then finish with cold)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are shampoos, soaps and cosmetics out of reach of children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



KITCHEN

YES NO

- Do electrical appliances have short cords that do not dangle over the edge of the bench? YES NO
- Is the kettle out of children's reach? YES NO
- Is the microwave positioned out of reach of children? YES NO
- Are back hot plates used first and are pot handles turned away from the edge to prevent pots being pulled from the stove? YES NO
- Are lighters, matches, knives and other dangerous objects stored in a place where a child cannot reach them? YES NO
- Are plastic bags out of reach or tied in the middle? YES NO
- Do you have latches on cupboard doors and pantries? YES NO
- Is the high chair stable & have a harness? YES NO
- Do you have a fire blanket or fire extinguisher ready to use in the event of a fire? YES NO
- Is there a barrier across the doorway to prevent child access to the kitchen? YES NO



LAUNDRY

YES NO

- Are cleaners, bleaches and detergents stored out of reach in a child resistant cupboard "Locked Up and Away"? YES NO
- Is the nappy bucket used with a lid on and kept out of reach of children? YES NO
- Are troughs and washing machines empty when not in use? YES NO
- Do appliances with lids switch off when machine is opened? YES NO
- Do you clean the lint filter of your dryer before every use? YES NO
- Is the floor kept dry and non-slippery? YES NO



CHILD'S BEDROOM

YES NO

- Is the cot away from the window? Any potential smothering hazards removed from the cot? YES NO
- Are blind or curtain cords secured out of reach (not too near the cot)? YES NO
- Are the cot rails 50-95 mm apart? YES NO
- Is everything you need situated close to the changing table within easy reach? YES NO
- Are the toys kept where children can reach them without climbing? YES NO
- Is furniture free of sharp corners? YES NO
- Are the toys suitable for the child's age (eg have strings and ribbons been cut from toys) YES NO
- Are electrical appliances and cords out of reach of young children? YES NO
- Do you check the state of electric blankets* before fitting them to the bed? YES NO
- Is all top heavy and unstable furniture such as chests of drawers, secured to prevent them from tipping over if climbed on? YES NO

***In the unlikely event that you do need them in the Northern Territory - please note that it is not recommended for electric blankets to be used for infants & young children. They must always be switched off at the wall before retiring to bed.**



LIVING AREAS & DINING

YES NO

- Are sharp edges on tables and furniture covered? YES NO
- Are blind and curtain cords out of reach? YES NO
- Are glass doors protected by safety film, colourful stickers or made of safety glass? YES NO
- Is alcohol stored in a child resistant cupboard? YES NO
- Are toys stored in an area to allow free passage after use? YES NO
- Are rugs and mats secured to prevent a fall (eg non-slip backing)? YES NO
- Are chairs and tables difficult to overturn? YES NO
- Are cigarettes, ashtrays, matches and lighters out of reach? YES NO
- Are tablemats used instead of tablecloths (to prevent crockery and cutlery being pulled off)? YES NO
- Are hot drinks placed well out of reach of children? YES NO
- Are there secured safety guards around fire places (including camp fires) and fuel stoves? YES NO
- Is the television securely placed on a stable cabinet? YES NO



OUTDOORS

YES NO

- Is your swimming pool or spa fully enclosed by a safety barrier with a self-closing, self-latching gate? YES NO
- Is the ground around the house and gutters kept clear of material that burns? YES NO
- Is the BBQ safe and covered when not in use, is the gas bottle secure? YES NO
- Are pesticides, paints, chemicals and other poisons stored in tightly covered, labelled, original containers out of reach of children ("Lock Up and Away") in a shed? YES NO
- Are all garden tools locked away? YES NO
- Is the garden free of poisonous plants? YES NO
- Can the shed or garage be locked? YES NO
- Is the area free of drowning hazards? E.g. ponds, pet water bowls/troughs YES NO
- Is the play area separate from the driveway? YES NO
- Is the play equipment stable and in good condition? (regular maintenance checks required) YES NO
- Is there a soft surface under play equipment to cushion falls? YES NO
- Are pathways clear to prevent tripping? YES NO
- Are branches pruned above eye level to avoid eye injury? YES NO
- Are garden statues and birdbaths cemented in to prevent a crushing hazard? YES NO
- Are wall mounted basketball hoops properly installed to prevent collapse/crushing hazard? YES NO
- Are electrical equipment, power points and light switches protected from the weather? YES NO
- Are all flammable liquids stored safely (as per the directions)? YES NO
- Are your termite insecticide protection hoses covered and not accessible to children? YES NO

**Don't forget your pets! Dog bites, cat scratches and other injuries to children are common.
 Never leave an infant or child unsupervised with domestic or farm animals.
 Always keep the child away from the animal's food and the animal away from the child's food.**

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you have any questions, please call Kidsafe NT on 08 8941 8234.

www.kidsafent.com.au

(Northern Territory)

Kidsafe NT website

www.pfes.nt.gov.au

(Northern Territory)

NT Fire and Emergency Services website

www.kidsafe.com.au

(Australia)

National Kidsafe Website

www.productsafety.com.au

(Australia)

National product safety information is now available on the new Product Safety Australia website managed by the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (ACCC)

www.recalls.gov.au

(Australia)

Has a list of products that have been recalled for safety reasons

www.choice.com.au

(Australia)

Choice magazine online contains product test results and other information

www.safekidsworldwide.com

(International)

Contains information on the National Safe Kids campaign in America

Kidsafe NT would like to thank Kidsafe WA for allowing us to edit and adapt this fact sheet for the Northern Territory. Excerpts may be copied for educational purposes.

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For more information

☎ (08) 8941 8234

Health Direct Australia

☎ 1800 022 222 (24 hrs)

RDH Accident & Emergency

☎ (08) 8922 8888

Poisons Information Centre

☎ 131 126 (24 hrs)