

Important Facts

Facts about Free Standing Furniture and Televisions

Televisions, bookcases, chest of drawers, coat stands and similar free standing equipment/furniture are a serious injury risk: Children often pull at these – causing them to be seriously or fatally injured as a result of items falling on them.

Facts about Burns

Hot drinks account for 71% of all burns: Hot drinks can burn – even up to fifteen minutes after being poured.

Facts about Falls

Injuries from falls are the number one cause of injury attendance in hospital by children: There is a huge risk of falls caused by leaving babies & children unattended on raised surfaces. These falls can result in serious injuries

Facts about Choking and Strangulation

Food, hard sweets, peanuts and marbles are the most common causes of choking.

Blind cords, curtain cords and clothing (e.g. ribbons, belts) are a serious strangulation risk to children.

Facts about Drowning

Drowning is a leading cause of death in children: Children of all ages can drown in shallow water.

Those under the age of one are at greatest risk in the bath.

Facts about Poisons

Unintentional poisoning accounts for 1,000 children under five being admitted to Irish hospitals every year.

Key Message:
Watch your child at all times as they do not understand danger.



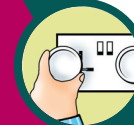
**In Emergency
Dial 999 Or 112**

Ambulance • Fire • Gardaí



DEC 2009

Child Safety Awareness PROGRAMME



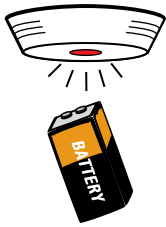
**Equipment
Checklist**

CHILD SAFETY AWARENESS EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST

To help keep your child safe at home you need the following:

Working Smoke Alarms

Tick Yes ✓ or No X



You need working smoking alarms.

- Test them once a week.
- Replace batteries when required.
- Make a fire escape plan and practice it often.

Smoke-Free Home and Car

Tick Yes ✓ or No X



- It is most important that no one smokes around your baby.
- Reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (Cot Death) by making your home and car smoke-free zones.

Car Seat

Tick Yes ✓ or No X



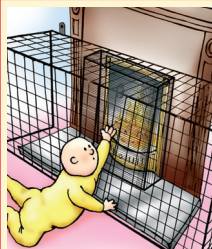
You must have a car seat for your child.

Make sure:

- It's correct for their weight and height.
- It's fitted correctly.
- Your child is always securely strapped into the seat.

Fireguard

Tick Yes ✓ or No X



Always guard open fires and heaters with:

- A fireguard and a sparkguard.
- Secure fireguard to wall.
- Never place anything on fireguard or sparkguard.

Stair Gates

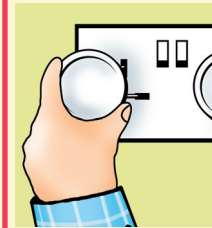
Tick Yes ✓ or No X



- Always use stair gates at top and bottom of stairs.
- Always ensure they are secured correctly.

Socket Guards

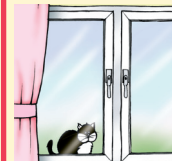
Tick Yes ✓ or No X



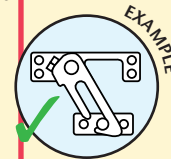
- Switch off and plug out electrical equipment when not in use.
- Always use socket guards in sockets that are not being used.

Window Safety

Tick Yes ✓ or No X



- Secure all windows with window restrictors that don't require tools for opening.
- Avoid placing furniture near windows.
- Blind and curtain cords are a serious strangulation risk to children.
- Avoid fitting blinds and curtains with cords attached.
- If already fitted, make sure the cords are securely out of your child's reach and sight.



Cupboard Safety Locks

Tick Yes ✓ or No X

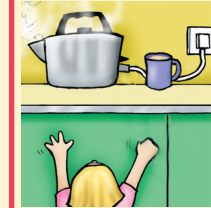


- Use cupboard safety locks.
- Store household cleaning products in top cupboards.
- Always keep household & cleaning products in their original child resistant containers.
- Never ever use soft drink bottles for storage.



Short Flexes

Tick Yes ✓ or No X



- Use short flex for kettle where possible.
- Keep all electrical items out of reach of children.
- Keep flexes out of reach of children.

Medicine Cabinet

Tick Yes ✓ or No X



- Keep all medicines in their original child-resistant containers and locked away in a medicine cabinet or in a locked press.
- Return old and unused medicines to your chemist.

First Aid Kit

Tick Yes ✓ or No X



- Have a First Aid Kit in your home.
- Make sure it is out of reach and sight of children.
- Your kit should contain:
 - Scissors
 - Bandages
 - Band Aids
 - Absorbent Pad
 - Tape
 - Antiseptic or Antiseptic Wipes
 - Burn Gel

Do you know First Aid? Learn now!

For further details contact:

Order of Malta 01 6684891 Irish Red Cross 01 6424600 St. John's Ambulance 01 6688077

Irish Heart Foundation 01 6685001

Civil Defence 0505 25310

When purchasing any child safety equipment please ensure it shows this safety symbol:

