

HOUSEHOLD GUIDE TO POISON CONTROL



This checklist is designed to help parents identify potential hazards in the home. Take some time to go through it and learn what you should do to prevent poisonings.

Poison Safety Checklist for Poison-Proofing Your Home

Complete the following checklist. See if your home is safe from potential poisons. Check that all poisons are safely stored out of reach of children and pets.

Check the kitchen: Household cleaning products are the cause of over 10% of poisonings in children under the age of six.

Be aware of these products:

- Cleaners – carpet/upholstery cleaners, furniture polish, soap/detergents
- Corrosives – automatic dishwashing detergent, drain cleaners, ammonia, metal cleaners, oven cleaners
- Medicines – pain relievers (aspirin and acetaminophen), diet aids, vitamin/iron pills, pet medications

What you should know:

- Remove medicines from countertops, window sills, and open areas.
- Put safety latches on all drawers and cabinets where harmful products are stored (Applies throughout the home).
- Store household products away from food.

Check the bathroom: Medicines are the cause of over 40% of all poisonings.

Be aware of these products:

- Medicines
- Mouthwashes
- Fluoride Rinses
- Deodorizers
- Hair Products
- Aftershaves
- Cleaners
- Drain Openers
- Hair Removers
- Cosmetics – nail polish/removers, baby powder, perfumes

What you should know:

- Make sure that all medicines are in child-resistant containers and labeled properly.
- Dispose of old medicines properly

Check the bedroom: Cosmetics and personal care products are the cause of 12% of poisonings in children under six.

Be aware of these products:

- Jewelry
- Medicines
- House plants – philodendron, dumbcane, pathos

What you should know:

- Remove all medicines from the dresser or bedside table.
- Keep all perfumes, cosmetics, and powders out of reach.

Check the laundry area: Bleaches are the most common household cleaning product swallowed by young children.

Be aware of these products:

- Bleach
- Laundry detergent
- Disinfectants



What you should know:

- Keep all products in original containers.
- Keep bleach, stain removers, detergents, and fabric softener out of reach or in a locked cabinet.

Check the garage/basement/storage areas: Household chemicals and insecticides are among the most common products that poison adults.

Be aware of these products:

- Antifreeze
- Lighter fluid
- Weed killer
- Pesticides
- Mothballs
- Gasoline/kerosene
- Paint remover/thinner/stripper

What you should know:

- Keep all products in their original containers.
- Keep insect sprays and weed killers in locked storage.
- Keep turpentine, paints, and rust removers in locked storage.



This information was provided by:
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Poison Control Specialists available 24 hours, 7 days a week