

Child Accident Prevention Centre

Is your home safe for children?

Go through this checklist to make sure your home is safe for children under the age of 6. The checklist works like this: if the answer to a question is **“Yes”**, the item is in order; if the answer is **“No”**, the item needs to be fixed or improved. Grandparents are encouraged to check their homes too.

Kitchen

Yes No

Are knives, scissors and similar utensils kept in a drawer or cupboard with a safety lock?		
Is the cooker fixed to the wall?		
Does the oven door stay cool on the outside (cool-touch design)?		
Are the cooker knobs protected so that a child cannot reach them?		
Is there a safety lock on the oven door?		
Is there a hob guard, or are only the back rings used?		
Are household appliances placed where young children cannot reach them?		
Are cords secured so that a child cannot pull an appliance down on top of themselves?		
Are dishwasher detergent and other cleaning products in a high or locked cupboard?		
Are medicines and vitamin tablets in a high cupboard or a locked cabinet?		
Are plastic bags and cling film kept out of children's reach?		
Does the child's high chair have a harness?		
Is there a safety lock on the refrigerator?		
Are the kitchen taps fitted with a temperature limiter?		
Are knives and sharp utensils placed point-down in the dishwasher?		

Bathroom

Yes No

Are razors and similar items kept in a locked cabinet or a high cupboard?		
Are toiletries and cleaning products kept in a locked cabinet or a high cupboard?		
Is there a non-slip mat or non-slip strips in the bathtub/shower tray?		
Are the shower, bath and basin taps fitted with a temperature limiter?		
Are hairdryers and other electrical appliances kept out of children's reach?		
Is the changing table fixed to the wall?		
Is the child's step stool at the sink stable?		
Is there a safety lock on the toilet seat?		

Children's room

Yes No

Are cupboards, shelves and chests of drawers fixed to the wall?		
Are the ceiling lights in the children's room made of shatterproof material?		
Is the wall lamp by the child's bed fixed to the wall and its cord secured with safety clips?		
Are the rugs on the floor non-slip?		
Are toys intact and suitable for the child's age and development?		
Does the bunk bed have a guard rail?		
Are the gaps between the bunk-bed ladder rungs less than 9 cm or more than 23 cm?		
Is the gap between the bars of the cot 6 cm or less?		

Stairs

Yes No

Are there safety gates at both the top and the bottom of the stairs?		
Are the gaps between the banister rails less than 9 cm?		
Is the gap between the handrail and the floor less than 9 cm?		
Are the stair treads non-slip?		
If there are open risers, are the gaps less than 9 cm?		
Is the banister designed so that a child cannot climb it?		
Is the banister at least 90 cm high?		

Windows and glass

Yes No

Do the opening windows open less than 9 cm?		
Are the window stays finger-safe?		
Is there safety glass in doors and in glass-topped tables?		
Have curtain cords been shortened or cord safety devices fitted?		

Doors

Yes No

Are there finger guards on the front door and the balcony door?		
Is there a door closer on the balcony door?		
Is there a safety lock on the balcony door?		
Are there finger guards or door stoppers on interior doors that slam in a draught?		

Electricity and electrical appliances

Yes No

Does the home's residual-current device (earth-leakage breaker) work?		
Are the sockets safe (sharp objects cannot be pushed into them)?		
Do older sockets have safety covers?		
Is the television fixed to the surface it stands on or to the wall?		
Is the laundry room kept locked?		
Are the cords of wall lights fixed to the wall?		

General safety in the home

Yes No

Are the sharp edges of radiators guarded?		
Are there corner guards on the sharp corners of furniture?		
Are shelving units and cupboards fixed to the wall?		
Are firearms stored unloaded in locked gun cabinets?		
Is the first-aid kit in an accessible place in the home?		
Are the rugs on the floors non-slip and not curled up at the sides/ends?		

Fire safety in the home

Yes No

Are matches and lighters kept in a locked cabinet or a high cupboard?		
Is there an escape plan for the home, e.g. in case of fire?		
Are there smoke detectors in the home, and do they work?		
Are there working fire extinguishers in the home?		
Is there a fire blanket in the home?		
Is there a working gas detector in the home (where gas appliances are used)?		
Is the emergency number 112 by the phone?		
Does everyone in the home know how to call the emergency services?		