

Child Safety Checklists (Checklists are general guidelines only)

A complete safety checklist does not exist. Raising your awareness about safety will help you make your home a safer place for your children. Home safety is a work in progress requiring constant adult supervision.

General Checklist Considerations:

(Check off when completed)

Move items that can poison or cut out of reach. Lockup items to prevent physical access. Discard items no longer used.	
Test all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors monthly.	
GFCI outlets with test buttons should be tested monthly. Replace outlets that fail to trip as they are possible hazards. Install GFCI outlets outside or anywhere within 6 feet of water.	
Check fire extinguishers for content, safety pin integrity and other physical damage.	
Infant verses toddler safety. A house that is considered safe for an infant may not be safe for a toddler. Readjust your mindset regarding safety and accessibility. Accidents can happen in a matter of seconds.	
Continually educate yourself: This newsletter does not covered choking hazards, dangerous toys, children's clothing hazards or first aid & CPR. For more information go to the following websites: www.safekids.org www.safeusa.org www.nsc.org www.cdc.gov/safeusa/home/safehome.htm www.cpsc.gov	

Outside Checklist Considerations:

(Check off when completed)

Test garage door safety reversing systems monthly (Electric eye, if applicable, & pressure sensitivity) Electric reversing eyes should be no higher than 6 inches off garage floor. Garage doors can and do kill children & pets.	
Watch for trip and slip hazards. A settled/heaved sidewalk is often an unpredictable, uneven surface that creates a trip hazard. A settled sidewalk may pool water creating a slip hazard, especially during cold weather.	

Inside Checklist (Most childhood accidents occur in the home):

(Check off when completed)

Furniture design and use. Watch out for sharp corners, heavy/sharp objects, and/or unsecured loose belongings with the potential for falling/crushing or suffocating a child. Relocate furniture away from stair railings. Children love to climb on furniture. They may use furniture to climb over stair railings with the potential to fall down the staircase.	
Stairs & deck railings, guards and fall potential. Railing height of 36 inches, with maximum vertical baluster spacing of 4 inches is recommended. Recommend baby gates at top & bottom of staircase to prevent and/or slow down access to staircase.	
Window safety. Children falling out windows opened as little as 5 inches is possible and very common. Watch placement of furniture similar to furniture placement for stairs. Move/remove mini-blind cords to eliminate possible strangulation.	
Bathrooms should be made inaccessible. Children can drown in a few inches of water. A crawling infant will soon try to stand, often slipping. Install a non-skid bath mat & bump protection on faucet heads. Keep entry & cabinet doors closed and latched.	
Kitchens and burns. Prevent accidents by securing range to the wall. An open oven door makes a perfect step for a small child. A child's weight & step location can tip a stove over resulting in scalding and/or crushing injuries. A child's skin will burn four times quicker than an adult's. A water heater should be set no higher than 120 degrees Fahrenheit.	
Wiring & outlets present special concerns for infants. Children may get caught in lamp cords and/or stick things into outlets. Install dummy plugs into unused outlets. Take the slack out and/or safely conceal/hide the wiring as best as possible.	
Do a crawl-through in each room. Crawl through each room of your home to see it from your child's perspective. Look under cabinets & furniture. A dropped pen or pencil can be a dangerous object to a infant or toddler.	
Have a fire escape plan. The plan should include shortest, quickest & safest method of exiting the building. Designate a place a safe distance away where everyone should meet. Depending on the # of stories, an escape ladder may be necessary.	

Go to www.phi.bz and click "Contact Us" to inquire about our free child safety seminars.