

Prevent Accidental Poisoning



Use this checklist to prevent accidental poisoning in your home.

Medicines

- Store medicines out of children's reach and sight.
- Keep products in their original containers and read directions.
- Don't take medicine or vitamins in front of children. Don't call them "candy."
- Keep visitors' purses, bags and coats out of the reach of children.
- Use only the dosing device that comes with the liquid medicine.
- When other caregivers are giving your child medicine, write clear instructions about what medicine to give, how much to give and when to give it.



Akron
Children's
Hospital

Cleaning Products

- Store cleaning products out of children's reach and sight.
- Keep products in their original containers and read product labels.
- Buy child-resistant packages when available.
- Never mix cleaning products.

Carbon Monoxide

- Install carbon monoxide detectors in all bedrooms and all levels of the home.
- Check the batteries in detectors every month.
- Check gas heaters, gas furnaces, fireplaces and wood-burning stoves for safety every fall.

Lead

- Test for lead-based paint in homes built before 1978.
- Encourage children to play in grassy areas of the yard to decrease potential exposure to lead found in soil.
- Leave shoes outside the home to avoid spreading any lead dust from outside.
- Hire an expert if you need to remove lead.
- A balanced diet can help a child absorb less lead if exposed to it.

If your child has been poisoned...

- Call 911 if the child is choking, can't breathe, or is having a seizure. Otherwise, call the poison control hotline, 1-800-222-1222, and be sure to have the product with you when you call.
- Follow the operator's instructions. Instructions are different depending on the item swallowed. Please don't make the child vomit or give them anything to drink unless instructed.

