

Handout E: Home Safety Checklist

Safety Item	Yes	No	Comments
General Household			
Walls, floors, are in good repair and free of chipping paint.			
Stairways have gates (for infants/toddlers) and handrails.			
Windows have screens or guards.			
Window shades don't have dangling cords.			
Fireplaces and heaters have protective screens.			
A smoke detector is on each floor, tested monthly, and batteries changed yearly.			
Everyone knows fire escape routes out of the house.			
Electrical outlets have safety covers.			
Pins, coins, nails, jewelry, plastic bags, balloons, and other chokable items are out of reach.			
Cigarettes, lighters, ashtrays, and alcohol are out of reach.			
Infant walkers are not used.			
Infants and young children are never left home alone or with another young child.			
Children watch television less than two hours a day, and no violent shows.			
Children are disciplined by positive guidance, not by belittling or hitting.			
Firearms are separate from ammunition, locked up, and out of reach.			
Emergency numbers are posted near the telephone.			
Kitchen			
Knives, glassware, and matches are out of reach.			
Cleaning products are out of reach.			
Pots on the stove have handles turned backward.			
The high chair is sturdy with a safety strap.			
Children under four are not fed chokable foods (e.g., hot dog rounds, candy, nuts, popcorn, grapes, chunks of meat).			

Module 2: Preventing Childhood Injuries

Handout E: Home Safety Checklist (continued)

Safety Item	Yes	No	Comments
Bathroom			
Medicines and vitamins are in original, child-proof containers.			
Medicines, vitamins, cosmetics, mouthwash, and cleaning fluids are out of reach.			
Ipecac is available for poisoning emergency.			
Hair dryers and curling irons are unplugged and away from water.			
Tap water temperature is 120° Fahrenheit or less.			
Young children are never left alone in the bathtub.			
Bedroom			
Infants sleep in a crib, not on a waterbed, beanbag chair, sheepskin, pillow, or down comforter.			
Infants are put to sleep on their backs.			
Cribs have slats less than 2 3/8" apart, a tight fitting mattress, and no cornerposts or cut-outs.			
Garage and Basement			
Insect spray, fertilizer, weed killer, paint, gasoline, and other chemicals are in original containers and out of reach.			
Sharp tools and electrical equipment are out of reach.			
Outdoors			
Balconies have protective railings.			
The play yard is fenced in.			
Pools, wells, hot tubs, and ponds are fenced on all sides.			
Play equipment is in good repair, lower than six feet and over sand or wood chips, not concrete, dirt, or grass.			
Children wear helmets when riding tricycles and bicycles.			
Children are secured in car seats (up to 40 pounds and 4 years) and seat belts when riding in a car (in the back seat) or truck.			