

Household safety check for children

The safety checklist below is for the kitchen.

Get down on your hands and knees to see everything from your child's height. Ask yourself: 'Is there anything in this space that could be a danger to my child?'

Using the checklist below to help, aim to have every box ticked (✓) and plan to fix any items not ticked.

Identify any safety aids used to make the kitchen safer for babies or young children and notes any potential hazards that you removed.

Safety Checklist	✓	Safety Aids Used/ Hazards Removed
Are knives, forks, scissors and other sharp tools in a drawer with a childproof latch?		
Have you installed a dishwasher lock so small children cannot open it while it is running?		
Have you installed a lock on your oven so that small children cannot open it when it is hot?		
Have you a cooker guard on your cooker so that small children cannot reach the controls or pull pots down from the cooker?		
Are chairs and step stools positioned away from the cooker?		
When cooking, are all pot handles on the cooker turned inward or placed on back burners where children cannot reach them?		
Are glass objects and appliances with sharp blades stored out of reach of children?		
Does the kitchen bin have a lid which closes?		

Are all appliances unplugged when not in use, with their flexes out of reach?		
Are all vitamins or medicine bottles tightly closed and stored in a high cabinet out of a child's reach?		
Are matches and lighters stored in a locked cabinet?		
Is the cabinet under the sink free of cleaning supplies, bug sprays, dishwasher detergent and dishwashing liquids?		
Are these supplies out of the reach of children?		
Are bottles containing alcohol stored out of reach?		
Are the flexes or wires from wall telephones or cable TVs out of reach of children?		
Are there any blinds or curtains with cords or chains in easy access of children?		
If so, are they kept out of the reach of children or fitted with a tension device to prevent strangulation?		
Are fridge magnets and other small objects out of reach?		
Are childproof latches installed on all cabinet doors?		
Is there a working fire extinguisher and fire blanket available in the kitchen? Do family members know how to use them?		
Does your child's highchair have a safety belt with a strap between the legs?		
Is your child left alone while sitting in a highchair?		

Is there a table cloth on the table when there are young children in house?		
Are all sinks, basins and buckets emptied after use to prevent drowning accidents?		