

# Home Safety Checklist

Check through your home one room at a time. Tick if the item requires further attention. Note any changes you need to do to make your home safer and plan when to make these changes.

## Throughout the Home

- Are the floor coverings sound with no tripping hazards? .....
- Are there barriers near stairs to stop falls? .....
- Are there railings children could climb? .....
- Are there safety plugs fitted in power points? .....
- Have any potentially poisonous houseplants been removed? .....
- Are heaters and fans guarded? .....
- Are heavy pieces of furniture secured? (bookshelves, stove, tv, cabinets) .....
- Is there a dog mixing with children? .....
- Have extra long cords been shortened or extra cords hidden? .....
- Is there a list of emergency numbers? (Poisons Information Centre - Ph: 13 11 26) .....
- Have you a home escape plan in case of a fire? .....
- Other things I have noticed: .....

## Living Rooms

- Is the heating system guarded? .....
- Do the power points need covers? .....
- Has the furniture any sharp corners? .....
- Are blind cords out of reach? .....
- Are glass doors protected with safety film, colour stickers or made of safety glass? .....
- Are rugs and mats secured with non-slip backing and in good order? .....
- Are hot drinks placed well out of reach of children? .....
- Are heaters kept away from curtains, furniture or other flammable materials? .....
- Is alcohol stored in a child resistant cupboard? .....
- Are there safety guards attached to the wall for heaters, fire places and fuel stoves? .....
- Are cigarettes, ashtrays, matches and lighters out of reach? .....
- Other things I have noticed: .....

## Bathroom and Laundry

- Do I have a device installed to lower the temperature of water to 50 degrees? .....
- Can I fit child resistant tap covers? .....
- Are poisons including cosmetics locked up, out of sight and out of reach? .....
- Are razors and hair dryers stored out of sight and out of reach? .....
- Is the bath emptied immediately after use? .....
- Is the nappy bucket closed with a firm lid and placed up high? .....
- Does the floor, bath and shower have a non-slip surface? .....
- Is an electric floor heater used here? .....
- Other things I have noticed: .....

# Home Safety Checklist *Cont.*

## Kitchen

- Do your appliances have shortened cords that do not dangle over the bench? .....
- Do you use the back hot plates and turn pot handles around to prevent pans being pulled from the stove? .....
- Are matches, knives and other sharp objects stored out of sight and out of reach of children? .....
- Are plastic bags out of reach or tied in the middle? .....
- Do you have a fire blanket, fire extinguisher or woolly blanket accessible? .....
- Is the microwave positioned out of children's reach? .....
- Are poisons locked up high out of children's reach and out of sight? .....
- Is the high chair stable and does it have a harness? .....
- Is the kettle out of reach? .....
- Other things I have noticed: .....

## Child's Bedroom

- Are the curtain cords secured, out of sight and out of reach? .....
- Is everything I need close to the change table? .....
- Are the cot rails between 50mm and 85mm apart? .....
- Are the toys kept close where children can reach them without climbing? .....
- Are the toys in good condition and appropriate for a child's age? .....
- Is there a nightlight? .....
- Do bunks have adequate rails to prevent falls? .....
- Is all medication out of sight and out of reach? .....
- Is furniture free from sharp corners? .....
- Are appliances and cords out of reach of children? .....
- Other things I have noticed: .....

## Outside

- Are pesticides, paints, chemicals and other poisons stored in their original containers locked up out of reach and out of sight of children? .....
- Are there drowning hazards? (fish ponds, wading pools, buckets of water or open drains) .....
- Is the pool or spa isolated on all four sides with a fence and gate that is selfclosing? .....
- Is play equipment stable and in good condition? .....
- If equipment is over 500mm from the ground there is a soft surface to a depth of 250mm to cushion falls? .....
- Are pathways clear of tripping hazards? .....
- Are garden statues and birdbaths cemented in to prevent a crushing hazard? .....
- Is the play area separate from the driveway? .....
- Is the garden free from poisonous plants? .....
- Are branches pruned above eye level to avoid eye injury? .....
- Other things I have noticed: .....

**child safety is no accident**

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