

Welcome! from Baby's Guardian - your one stop "Baby Proofing" Service. We are the "Safety Experts". With over twenty years of baby safety experience available to you, **let us help you** make your home safer for your children. We offer a full line of top quality safety products for purchase and provide quality service for your in-home installation needs.

BABY PROOFING

"Baby Proofing" is the installation and adaptation of products, available in the market place, to prevent the accidental serious injury and/or death to an infant or toddler from common hazards normally found in and around the home.

With a professional baby proofer, you have an experienced technician that **know** and can correctly and quickly install child safety products *that work!*; eliminating unnecessary and frustrating learning curves and questions as to whether the right product was used or installed correctly.

FACTS

Child Deaths

Unintentional injuries make up almost **90%** of all child injury **deaths!** Vs. **10%** for Intentional injuries from abuse, violence, and neglect.

75% of all child injury deaths are from:

- A. Drowning (The No. 1 home accident. Approximately 250 children a year!)
- B. Suffocation (Cords, wires, loose blankets, plastics)
- C. House Fires
- D. Child pedestrians being hit by motor vehicles. (No child locks on outside doors)
- E. Car crashes.

More children die of injury than die of cancer, asthma and infectious diseases combined.

Child Injuries

1. After Respiratory illnesses like asthma, **Injuries** are the second leading cause of child hospitalization.

2. **The Top Three causes of stitches, cuts and bruises.**
- A. **Coffee Tables.**
 - B. **Fireplace hearths.**
 - C. **Bathtub waterspout.**
3. **Hospitalizations of young children from unintentional injury are most commonly from:**
- A. **Falls. (Nursery, furniture, high chairs)**
 - B. **Poisoning. (Medicines, household cleaners, cosmetics, plants, etc.)**
 - C. **Scalds (Hot drinks and hot tap water)**
 - D. **Choking. (Unsuitable foods like nuts, beans, peas, popcorn, grapes, etc. to children under 4 years old.**
 - E. **Electrocution. (Outlets, biting through wires)**
 - F. **Burns. (From pots, grease, irons, wall heaters, fireplaces, etc.)**
 - G. **Head injuries. (Pulling things down on them in the house and yard)**
 - H. **Animal bites.**
 - I. **Shootings.**

(more)

Developmental Phases

Each child develops at their own pace, but usually through similar stages and orders of development

If you understand your child's development as they grow, you will get a great deal of satisfaction and enjoyment from your child and can keep them safe. **Accidents usually occur as your child progresses from one phase to the next, usually surprising their parents.**

Birth to 9 Months

Your baby will wiggle and roll at 3 months, sit up at about 6 months, crawl at about 9 months. They start reaching and grasping objects to put in their mouths. Your baby is now aggressively learning.

9 Months to 18 Months (Toddlers on the Move)

Your baby will become increasingly mobile now and start to walk. Your baby will also become very curious, wanting to open cupboards, turn switches on and off and seek out items they know exist even if they are out of view. Remember they are watching you and learning constantly from you. They will "test" everything in their mouth.

1 ½ to 3 ½ Years (Inquisitive, Illusive and Invincible)

Your child is now actively "exploring" their environment. They want to do everything without help or interference by the parent. Your child will begin to run and jump without fear of heights or danger. The smell, taste and texture of things become fascinating. This is where 3 out of 4 children will incur an injury. "They never showed an interest in it before." "I didn't know my child could climb so high."

3 ½ Years to 5 Years (Pre-schoolers – Independent Adventurers)

"Young Jacques Cousteau's". At this age your child has little understanding of danger. Favorite pastime will be climbing. The best injury prevention is adult supervision. A very good age range where your child can and will understand warnings about danger and can learn proper precautions.

Hazards:

STITCHES, CUTS, BRUISES

#1 Coffee table

#2 Hearths

#3 Tub Spouts

#4 Glass: Putting their hands through glass by just pounding on it.

Remedies

Toddler Shields (removable padded cushions for coffee and end tables)

Table edge guards – Corner Cushions and Edge Cushions

Hearth guard kits (for fireplace hearths)

Fireplace Screens (attached to the wall)

Tub spout covers

Earthquake film (for window applications)

Plexiglas (1/4" in front of windows or doors)

PINCHED FINGERS

Doors

Drawers being pushed back once open

Bi-fold doors

Cribs, strollers

Remedies

Door limit stops

Door pinch guards

Double lock drawer latches

Door locks (flap locks, slide bolts, bi-fold door locks, etc.)

(more)

TRIPS, FALLS

Parents stepping over gates

Second story window falls

Falling through banisters, second floor railings, Stairways

Changing table, babies rolling to the side and falling off. (3 mos. On)

Baby bed mattress set too high once they are able to pull themselves up. Results in a 3 ft. drop on their head. (preferably 20"-24" from mattress to top of side rail.)

Half of crib related injuries involve children falling out of the crib

High Chairs (get your child used to the harness from the start and use it every time.)

Baby walkers

Remedies

Don't step over gates. If you do it, the child thinks its ok! Infants will not respect barriers then.

Pressure gates (never recommended for top of stairs)

Plexiglas or banister guard (vinyl sheeting) for second floor railings and balconies.

Install window limiters on second story windows

Never take your hands or eyes off your baby when on the changing table.

Lower crib mattress to lowest level. **Once the child has climbed out of the crib, move them to a day bed as they will continue to try to climb out.**

Experts generally believe that walkers do not help in a child's development and may even hinder.

BURNS

Carrying hot drinks while holding your baby .

Children tipping hot pots over on them (one cup the same as 1 gal. Hot water on the head of an adult)

Children turning on stoves or opening oven doors

Wall heaters (especially ones that have accessible switches)

Children turning on hot water valves. (Bathroom accounts for 80% of hot water scalds)

Remedies

Never carry a baby and a hot drink at the same time, the baby will instinctively reach for the drink.

Stove shields

Turn saucepan handles away from stove fronts

Give yourself a 6" to 9" clear zone from the edge of the counter top

Put knob protectors on stove knobs (these are usually cumbersome) or just remove the knobs, re-install when cooking

Oven door locks to restrict opening.

Set water heaters at 120 degrees (grey or white indicator if no numbers on dial)
Deactivate wall heaters or put guards around them (configure gates or fire screens).
Smoke alarms
Fire extinguishers

CHOKING

No. 1 choking hazard: door stop end covers

Blind and drape cords

Plastics, dry cleaning, grocery bags, plastic packages (Ingestion & suffocation)

Open trash cans

Clear tabs or stick on cushion tabs on cabinetry

Little chunks of food, beans, etc.

Older children's toys and parts

Electrical cords

Remedies

Replace door stops with one piece door stops

Rope cleats for blind and drape cords

Ask dry cleanings service to not put plastic on or take off before delivery

Immediately remove plastics

Trash cans with lids that need weight to open

Utilize a choking tube sizer, or a toilet paper cardboard roll will do

Be sure to cut up food in small bit sizes.

Refrain from popcorn, hard candies, etc.

Use "cord cover" or "cord camouflage" to hide wires

DROWNING

Most common cause of death for children under 5 (for every child that drowns, **11 children** go to the hospital for near- drowning accidents. **Toddlers drown quickly and silently!** Toddlers have little upper body strength to lift themselves up. Top heavy, easy to lose balance.

Little neck strength to raise the head if submersed.

Area of concern:

Bathtubs

Toilets

Pet water dishes

Bird baths

Pools (51% of deaths from drowning)

Jacuzzi's

Inflatable pools (drain after use)

Remedies

Smaller tub inserts inside the bathtub.

Toilet lid locks.

Keep only 1" of water in pet water dishes and accessible bird baths.

Install pool fencing to isolate the pool area.

High locks to all doors leading outside and to dangerous areas.

Exit alarms on doors to pool area.

When visiting friends, ask if they have a pool or spa.

Always lock and shut bathroom door and place a door release pin up on door frame.

CRUSHING

Pulling cabinets over on them
Pulling lawn ornaments over on them
Pulling heavy items not attached in place.
Pulling things off the counters and stove
Pictures falling off their hooks.

Remedies

Test all furniture by pulling out all the drawers then applying 10 to 20 lb.s of push to the top drawer

(changing table are usually tippy)

Attaching cabinets to walls (earthquake proofing straps)

Latches for drawers, specifically drawers that can be pulled out all the way.

Secure free-standing items to wall

Use museum wax for free standing items on shelves.

Secure bird baths to stable bases

Create a buffer zone (6 inches) from edge of counter.

Earthquake picture hooks.

ELECTROCUTION

Electric outlets

Cord and plugs

Remedies

Slide covers if the outlet is sometimes used, e.g. use of a vacuum cleaner, humidifier, etc..

Plug inserts are for outlets never used.

Box covers for outlets having fixtures always plugged in.

Surge protectors covers.

Wire covers

Cord camouflage covers

POISONING

Poisoning often occurs with unexpected changes in a child's development. "They never showed an interest in it before."

The chance of poisoning increases when household routines are disrupted, like vacations, moving, visitors, etc.

Poisonings happen very quickly when parents are distracted.

Common medicines and household products that have been stowed unsafely or are "in use"!

Age 0 to 2 – are at most risk- they explore their world with their mouths.

Anything in consumable form because they have not established their taste buds

Poisons

Plants

Animal Waste, pet food.

Parent's medications or vitamins. Remember they saw you take pills and they think its ok!

Teaspoon of salt (lethargic reaction)-tablespoon of salt will result in seizures.

Iron Medication for pregnancy. (There is no cure for iron poisoning.)

Age 2 and up

Plants Oleander, Azaleas, Calla Lillys, Hydrangeas, Foxglove

Toxic products that do not have taste inhibitors in them

Medication: cough and cold, antihistamines, heart and blood pressure, etc.

Cosmetics, lipstick, etc.

Dog food

Toothpaste (read the warning on the tube)

Vitamins

Shower toxics – like shampoo, conditioners.

Bar soap

Salt (can be fatal)

Iron supplements

Remedies

Liquid activated charcoal (to keep the poison down) Again, use only as directed.

First Aid Kit – An outdoors First aid kit is best.

Poison Center Phone # available by phone

Insect sting relief pads

Remove toxic plants, refer to our Toxic/Non-Toxic plant book (free of charge)

Store all potential poisons out of sight and out of reach. Adult level. Above counter top height.

Don't take vitamins and medicines in front of children.

Keep visitor's purses up high and off the floor.

Keep dishwasher door locked. Fill with soap only when ready to use.

If your child swallows poison, take the child and the container to the phone and call the hotline.

Safety Issues:

Outside doors (It only takes a second, then they are out the doors.)

Outdoor plants

Children pulling heavy things over on them.

Children climbing on drawers.

Children turning on stove tops by playing with the knobs.

Remember children mimic their parents. They quickly learn how to open doors, turn on things, etc.

Children and pets don't mix when animals are feeding.

Majority of deaths due to nursery items, are babies who strangle in cribs or strollers.

ROOMS

Kitchen (children should be kept out if at all possible or restricted)

Bathrooms (make inaccessible to children)

Nursery (baby proof the whole room)

Stairs (top of stairs use hard mounted gates rated for these applications) **Very important!**

Den - Usually best to isolate the room and baby proof to provide a safe environment.

Bedrooms – best to restrict access unless you are there with the child. (door locks, etc.)

MULTIPLES

Tag team effort goes on here. Instead of one little curious mind, you have two or more.

Usually one child will make the other interested or enlist their participation.

Remedies

Double lock Latches for multiples.

Dual locks on each drawer.

Tot Locks, magnetic locks are the absolute best lock for multiples.

Secure furniture to the walls

Second Story window latching to avoid fall-outs.

Higher outer door latching, surface bolts, hook and eyes.

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO REMEMBER IS THAT NOT ALL BABY SAFETY PRODUCTS ARE CREATED EQUAL. Through our experience, we use only those products that we have found to work first time, every time. Unfortunately, that does not include a manufacturer's complete line of products. We selectively use only some products from every manufacturer's product line!!

Baby's Guardian has always offered an educational **Baby Safety Seminar** to all mom's clubs, churches and infant related organizations free of charge! Contact Glenn Sauri at (479) 381-2097 and schedule a Seminar.

In-home consultations are available by appointment.

Log on to the website of the *International Association for Child Safety* for a list of professional baby-proofers in your area.

For a complete list of recall reports on baby and kids toys, log onto www.consumerreports.org.

General Safety

- 1. Have emergency numbers for police, doctors, ambulance and poison control near the phone at all times.**
- 2. Have a First Aid kit in the house and car.**
- 3. Install smoke alarms at strategic places like the kitchen, and the child's bedroom.**
- 4. Cover all unused power outlet points with child safety covers. (see "Alerts")**
- 5. Cover all electrical appliance plugs to prevent children playing with them, pulling them out and becoming part of the circuit.**
- 6. Place finger jam protectors or door closing restrictors on doors.**
- 7. Ensure that all glass doors and low windows are fitted with safety glass, a guard, or an earthquake elastic film to prevent glass breakage.**
- 8. Limit all second story windows so that children cannot fall out if they can reach them, especially if they can open them.**
- 9. Keep all matches, lighters and candles out of reach of children.**
- 10. Safety latch all lower drawers and cabinet doors that contain any possible poison materials. (Items with or without taste inhibitors – Household cleaners, vitamins, condiments, toothpaste, cosmetics, air fresheners, shampoo, lotions, alcoholic beverages, medicines etc.)**
- 11. Safety latch all drawers that do not have a pull out restraint on slide mechanism. (You can install double lock latches to prevent pinched fingers, too.)**
- 12. Remove small refrigerator magnets so that they do not fall and break into pieces. Business card type magnets are a better substitute.**
- 13. Keep all purses (yours and visitors) off the floor or areas where children can get into them. (Medicines, cosmetics, coins, etc.)**
- 14. Lower crib mattresses as low as they can go when infants can eventually pull themselves up on the crib railings, so that they do not "bounce" themselves over the rails. (A 3 ft. fall)**
- 15. Lower water heater temperature to 120 degrees. (A child can scald in water temperatures 5 degrees higher than that.)**
- 16. Use rope cleats to keep cords up away from children. (Drapes, blinds)**
- 17. Install gates at the bottom and top of stairs to prevent falls. (Pressure gates are not approved for top stair applications.)**
- 18. Place a fence around an outdoor swimming pool and keep gates locked. (Mandatory in states)**
- 19. Never carry an infant or child while holding a hot beverage or pan.**
- 20. Install toilet safety locks to avoid toddler drowning.**
- 21. Never take you eyes away from the baby when on a changing table. (They will roll off in a second.)**
- 22. Do not leave more than an inch of water in pet water bowls. Also empty mop bucket water when not is use.**
- 23. Lock away all guns and put trigger locks on them.**

24. Use non-slip rugs and tub mats to prevent slipping.
25. De-activate bathroom wall heaters. (Your baby can and will switch it on and can burn themselves.)
26. Place all pot and pan handles away from the edge of the stove. Leave a 6 to 9 inch "Safe Zone" from the edge of the counters.
27. Fire screen all fireplaces and attach screen to the wall.
28. Install oven, dishwasher and refrigerator safety locks, especially if your child is a climber or strong enough to open the doors.
29. Keep toddlers away from pets when they are being fed. The pets are "their pets" in their eyes and what they eat and drink is "OK" in their minds. Pets get very "territorial" when it comes to their food.
30. Get down to your child's level and cushion those sharp corners that they can run into or fall into.
31. Children 1 ½ to 4 are susceptible to choking from popcorn, hard candy and lollipops, apples, carrots, nuts, etc. Watch them closely with these items.
32. Vertical bars spaced more than 4 inches apart can allow a child to get their head stuck between them. Railings cannot have vertical bars more than 4 inches apart in most states now.
33. Place restraints on all balconies and inside railings. (E.g. Plexiglas, door locks, etc.)
34. Have a second story escape ladder and escape plan in place, in case of fire.
35. Inspect wicker furniture for loose or missing wicker strands.
36. Do not reward children with coins.
37. Never give balloons to a child younger than eight years old.
38. Do not place an infant face down on soft bedding or pillows. Avoid large stuffed animals until a later age.
39. Don't buy garments with drawstrings, or else cut all drawstrings out of hood, jackets and waistbands of your baby's wardrobe.
40. Do not tie a pacifier, necklace or place a headband on your baby.
41. Make one area of the house "baby safe", where your baby has some room to play and can be restricted within the area.

In-home consultations available by appointment.

PRODUCTS

Below you will find a checklist outlining some of our most popular safety products.

Cabinet & Drawer Latches

- KinderGard® Single Latches
- KinderGard® Double Latches
- Kidco Latches
- Kidco Double Latches
- Safer-Baby® Latches
- Tot Lok® Magnetic Latches
- Gerber® Latches
- Euro Latches
- Safer-Baby® Oven Locks

Emergency Preparedness

- All Safe™ Escape Ladders
- First Aid Only™ Kits
- Cleats
- Liquid Activated Charcoal
- ☎ Poison Hotline Number

Nursery Safety

- Wondermat Floor Mats
- Wondermat Floor Squares
- Toy Box Hinges
- Rail Shield Rail guard

Bath Safety

- Gerber® Toilet Locks
- Lid Lok™ Toilet Latch

(Authorized Dealer)

- Hippo Spout Covers
- Elephant Spout Covers
- Bath Buddy Tub Cushion

Surfaces

- Safety Surface® (*Authorized Dealer*) Cushioned rubberized surfaces

Household Electrics

- Safer-Baby® Hide-A-Plug
- We Care Cover® Outlet Plates
- Plug Inserts
- Safer-Baby® Big Box Covers
- Safer-Baby® Wire Covers
- Wire Split Cover Coil
- Power Strip Covers
- TV Guard
- Power Strips
- VCR Guards

General Safety

- Toddler Shield™ Edge Cushions
- Corner Covers
- Edge Cushions
- Earthquake Straps (furniture)

Door Safety

- Top Door Locks
- Bi-fold Door Locks
- Door Knob Covers
- Sliding Closet Door Locks
- Flap Door Locks
- Slide Surface Bolts

- Patio Door Lock
- Soft Jam™ Door Stops
- Door positioner

Security Gates

- Even-Flo® wood Gates
- Kidco Metal Gates
- Cardinal Gates
- ☎ First Years Hand Free gates

Kitchen Safety

- Stove Guard Shield
- Stove Knob Covers
- Refrigerator Latches
- Appliance Latches
- Safer-Baby® Oven Locks

Window Safety

- Curtain/Blind Rope

- Window Limiters

Barriers

- Plexiglas
- Bannister Guard
- Railnet® Mesh Rail Guard
- Superyard
- Decknet®
- Removable Pool Fencing

Pools

- LifeSaver® Pool Fence
- Poolguard® Pool Alarms
- Poolguard® Door Alarm
- AquaSonus Pool Alarm
- Safety Surface®

In-home consultations available by appointment.