

FOCUS PARENTING

Protect Your Children From Home Dangers

Childproofing can be an overwhelming task. Although you can't make your home 100 percent safe, there are ways to help prevent accidents. Here are a few suggestions to get you started on the road to a safer home:

- Put outlet covers in all unused outlets. Don't forget to look behind furniture for ones you may have forgotten. Make sure outlet covers can't be easily removed.
- Outlets should have grounded circuit breakers.
- Make sure that small, unstable furniture that your child could pull over is put away. Use wall brackets to stabilize larger furniture.
- Use protective padding on furniture or other items with sharp edges.
- Use doorknob covers to keep children from opening doors.
- Install pinch guards on doors.
- Remove rubber tips from doorstops, which pose a choking hazard.
- Put decals on glass doors to prevent children from running into them.
- Put childproof locks on sliding doors.
- Shorten cords on window treatments to keep a child from getting tangled.