

# THE HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

*There are ten main sources of accidents in the home*

*This checklist will help you find them.....and make them safe*

## 1. Bicycles

- See that brakes are working.
- Chain guards should be secure and all screws and bolts are tight.
- Make sure they have front, rear, pedal, spoke reflectors, headlights and tail lights.

## 2. Stairs, Ramps and Landings

- Fix poor lighting
- Fix loose handrails and broken steps.
- Tack down loose carpeting and remove objects that people trip over.

## 3. Home Playground Equipment

- Make sure swing sets, gym sets and other Playground equipment are installed on soft surfaces at least six feet from obstructions such as fences or walls.
- They should be anchored firmly in the ground, and any exposed bolts or screws should be covered with plastic caps or taped over.

## 4. Bathtubs

- Place non-skid bath mats or adhesive strips on bottom of tubs and showers.
- Make sure that all bathroom rugs and mats have slip proof backings.

## 5. Ladders

- Install slip resistant rubber or plastic to the feet and steps.
- Make sure rungs are sturdy and not cracked, and braces are secure.

## 6. Electrical Cords and Outlets

- Make sure only one appliance is plugged into each socket.
- Install plastic plug-in safety caps or rotary cap outlets in unused wall sockets.
- Have frayed cords, exposed wires and loose plugs repaired.
- Make certain that all fuses are of the correct amperage.

## 7. Furniture

- Move all upholstered furniture well away from stoves, space heaters, floor and wall furnaces and anything else that could set the upholstery on fire.

## 8. Glass Doors and Panels

- Make sure doors and panels have safety glazing
- For visibility, stick decals or colored tape on them at both adult and child eye level.

## 9. Liquid Fuels

- Store all flammable liquids in properly labeled, tightly capped, non-glass safety containers away from heat or flame.

## 10. Fire Safety

- Check the battery in your smoke detector often and replace when needed so your family will have an early warning and an excellent chance for escape if a fire starts.
- Develop and practice a fire escape plan.

**Also remember.....**

### Carbon Monoxide Detectors

- Are inexpensive, plug into an electrical outlet, are portable....and may be an early warning of an otherwise undetected toxic environment.

### Scalds

- Turn water heaters down. Hot liquids burn like fire. 120° is the suggested temperature.
- Never leave young children alone in kitchens or bathrooms.

### Children's Articles

- Avoid strangulation hazards of young children by not using toy chests or similar chests with lids that can fall freely.
- When young children start to climb, baby gates should no longer be used. Children can strangle in the v-shaped openings along the top when the gate is expanded.
- Never use or leave vinyl or plastic materials (especially thin ones like dry cleaning bags) around cribs, playpens, or strollers. Keep them out of the reach of children at all times.