



HOW TO CHILDPROOF A HOME?

The importance of childproofing

The advent of a child changes a lot of things. While some are more obvious, childproofing a home is one aspect that should never be overlooked.

Creating a safe home environment is one of the most important responsibilities for parents and caregivers, especially when there are infants, toddlers or young children around.

One has to keep in mind that children are naturally curious and eager to explore their surroundings. And they are ignorant of any danger. **Childproofing helps reduce the risk of accidents, injuries and emergencies by making the home safer.**

It is best to start with the most accident-prone areas. In the kitchen, keep sharp objects, cleaning supplies and medicines locked away or stored on higher shelves. Use stove knob covers, avoid keeping hot liquids within a child's reach and ensure LPG cylinders or electrical appliances are also kept inaccessible. In the bathroom, install non-slip mats, keep buckets covered, store toiletries safely and ensure the water heater temperature is controlled to prevent scalding.

Electrical safety involves covering electrical sockets with safety plugs, hiding loose wires and ensuring electrical devices are not left unattended. Furniture safety is equally important. It is a good idea to secure heavy furniture like cupboards, bookshelves and televisions to the wall to prevent them from tipping over. Use corner guards on sharp-edged tables and keep breakable items out of reach.



To prevent falls, install safety gates at staircases and balconies, ensure railings are secure and never leave windows open without grills or locks. Always supervise children on beds, sofas or elevated areas.

Choking hazards like small objects, coins, batteries, marbles and toys with detachable small parts should be kept away from children. Chemical and poison safety requires pesticides, detergents and paints are stored securely.

Finally, one should never underestimate the importance of constant adult supervision. Childproofing reduces risk but does not replace attentive care. Teaching children basic safety habits as they grow – such as not touching switches, staying away from fire and being careful around water – also plays a major role.

Childproofing a home may seem overwhelming, but even simple steps can significantly improve safety. **A carefully childproofed home offers parents' peace of mind and allows children to explore and learn safely.**