

Walk through your home. Tick each fix.

One room at a time. Every line is a thing you can do this week. Get down to your child's height and look: Kidsafe suggests crawling through each room on your hands and knees.¹



Kitchen

Burns and poisons start here.

- ☐ Latches on every cupboard that holds cleaners or dishwasher powder.¹
- ☐ Stove guard fitted. Cook on the back hotplates first and turn handles to the back.¹
- ☐ Freestanding stove fixed to the floor or wall.¹
- ☐ Kettle cord short or cordless, pushed to the back. Boil only what you need.
Boiled water can scald for up to 30 minutes.¹
- ☐ Hot drinks out of reach. Never hold one with a child on your lap.¹
Scalds cause 52% of child burns; the typical child burned is 3.⁷
- ☐ Knives, lighters and matches up high. Plastic bags out of reach.¹
- ☐ Fire blanket and extinguisher where an adult can grab them.¹
- ☐ Poisons 13 11 26 and Emergency 000 on the fridge.¹



Bathroom

Medicines, hot water and the bath.

- ☐ Every medicine and vitamin in one locked box or cupboard, up high. Handbags, yours and visitors', out of reach too.²
"Child resistant" is not child proof. Many children can open these lids.¹
- ☐ Hot water at the bathroom tap no hotter than 50°C. Ask a licensed plumber.¹
Systems put in before 5 August 1998 likely run hotter than 50°C (Victorian Building Authority).⁶
- ☐ Run the cold first and turn it off last. Bath water for young children: about 38°C.¹
- ☐ Never leave a child alone in the bath. If you must leave, take them with you.¹
- ☐ Razors locked away. Hairdryers and straighteners unplugged and put away.¹
- ☐ Non-slip mat in the bath. Floor kept dry.¹
- ☐ Shampoos, soaps and make-up out of reach.¹



Laundry

Pods, bleach and buckets.

- ☐ Detergents, pods and bleach in a latched cupboard, in their own labelled containers.¹
- ☐ Soaking and nappy buckets have a tight lid and sit out of reach.¹
- ☐ Tubs empty. Washing machine and dryer doors shut.¹



Living areas

Tip-overs, batteries and cords.

- ☐ TV, bookcases and chests of drawers strapped to the wall.¹
Toppling furniture has killed 20 Australian children under 7 since 2000.⁸
- ☐ Every remote, scale and toy: the battery door needs a screw or tool to open. Tape any loose one shut. Spare button batteries up high.⁵
A swallowed button battery can cause severe burns in as little as 2 hours.⁵
- ☐ Blind and curtain cords wound on a cleat at least 1600 mm above the floor. No loose loop 220 mm or longer.³
- ☐ Glass doors are safety glass or covered with safety film.¹
- ☐ Heaters guarded, with the guard fixed to the wall. Heaters away from curtains.¹
- ☐ Power point covers in unused sockets. Safety switch fitted.¹
- ☐ Alcohol, cigarettes and lighters in a latched cupboard.¹
- ☐ Smoke alarms tested. Battery changed at least once a year.¹



Bedrooms and nursery

Where children sleep and climb.

- ☐ Cot away from the window, and away from blind and curtain cords.¹
- ☐ Cot rails 50 to 95 mm apart. Mattress firm and fits snugly.¹
- ☐ Everything you need within reach of the change table. One hand on baby.¹
- ☐ Drawers and wardrobes strapped to the wall.¹
- ☐ No top bunk for children under 9. Bunks have guard rails and a fixed ladder.¹
- ☐ Toys stored low so no one climbs. "Not suitable under 3" toys kept from little ones.¹
- ☐ Nightwear labelled low fire risk.¹



Stairs and windows

Falls are 1 in 3 child injury hospital stays.⁷

- ☐ Gates at the top and bottom of every staircase.¹
- ☐ Stairs well lit. Night lights, or switches a child can reach.¹
- ☐ Upstairs windows: a window guard or stainless steel mesh.¹
- ☐ Beds, couches and boxes moved away from windows and balcony rails.¹
- ☐ Railings and balconies have no footholds or gaps a child fits through.¹
- ☐ Balcony doors locked when no one is out there.¹



Garage and shed

Chemicals, tools and the car.

- ☐ Garage and shed locked.¹
- ☐ Pesticides, paint, fuel and pool chemicals in their own labelled containers, up high.¹
- ☐ Garden and power tools locked away.¹
- ☐ Car locked, keys out of the ignition. Know where every child is before you move it.¹
- ☐ Driveway fenced off from where children play.¹



Outdoors and pool

Half the under-5 drownings in 2024–25 were in home pools.⁴

- ☐ Any pool or spa that holds more than 30 cm of water is fenced on all four sides, apart from the house.¹
- ☐ The gate shuts and latches by itself, from any position. Test it today.¹
Queensland rules: fence at least 1200 mm high, gaps no wider than 100 mm, nothing to climb within 900 mm. Your council has your state's rules.⁹
- ☐ Nothing leaning on the fence. The gate is never propped open.¹
- ☐ Resuscitation chart in the pool area. An adult in the house has done a first aid course.¹
- ☐ Paddling pools emptied after use and stored upright. Buckets, pet bowls and eskies emptied.¹
- ☐ Ponds covered with a fixed grill.¹
- ☐ Trampoline made to AS 4989, safety pads on, one child at a time.¹
- ☐ Play equipment stable, away from paths, with a soft surface below.¹
- ☐ Garden plants checked. Ask your local nursery which ones are poisonous.¹



Something has happened? Poisons Information Centre **13 11 26**, any hour, anywhere in Australia.
Emergency **000**.

Sources

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4. Royal Life Saving, *National Drowning Report 2025*. royallifesaving.com.au/library/national-drowning-report
5. Queensland Government, *Button batteries*. [qld.gov.au: button batteries](https://qld.gov.au/button-batteries)
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8. Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne, *The tipping point* (Aug 2021). blogs.rch.org.au
9. Queensland Government, *Tips for a safe pool* (Jun 2022). qld.gov.au/housing/buying-owning-home/pool-safety/tips

Child Safety at Home · kidsafest.com/checklist.html · General information, not a substitute for your state's laws or a professional's advice.