Most injuries suffered by children occur in and around the home. While it may not be possible to make your home completely safe at all times, you can take steps to lessen the risk of injury and make your home a safer place for children.

**Home Safety Checklist**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outdoors</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Are the wading pools and other water containers emptied immediately after use?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are play areas fenced securely, checked and maintained regularly and not located near a driveway?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are fence and gates in good condition and in working order?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is sunscreen and hat worn when outside?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Is play equipment checked regularly and in good condition?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Are trampoline, swings and climbing items positioned on a soft surface, eg. well maintained grass or mulch?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is garden free from poisonous or hazardous plants?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are branches and twigs removed from children’s eye level?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are fence and gates in good condition and in working order?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are children supervised in the backyard at all times?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are children restricted from accessing the driveway?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are helmets worn when riding a tricycle, bike, scooter, inline skates or skateboard etc.?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are wrist, knee and elbow guards worn when riding a scooter, inline skates or skateboard etc.?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are children supervised around pets, especially dogs?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does pram or stroller comply with Australian Standards?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is five point safety harness on the pram or stroller secured when in use?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are garden statues and birdbaths cemented in to prevent a crushing hazard?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the pool or spa isolated on all 4 sides with a fence and a self-closing gate?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Childhood injuries include**

- Burns and Scalds
  - Cooking appliances such as the oven, stove, barbeque
  - Heaters and Irons
  - Hot Water and Steam
  - Hot liquids such as tea, coffee, soup, noodles
  - Cigarettes, fires, candles, matches, lighters
  - Button batteries
  - Sun

- Poisoning
  - Medications
  - Household cleaning products
  - Pool chemicals
  - Pesticides

- Choking
  - Small items such as beads, toys, pieces of foam, coins, miniature batteries, etc
  - Food items such as small pieces of raw carrot, apple pieces, popcorn, nuts, hard lollies

- Near-Drowning
  - Bath (if left unsupervised)
  - Wading Pool
  - Swimming pools or spas
  - Garden ponds and water features
  - Dams, lakes and water tanks

- Entrapment
  - Between cot railings
  - Balustrades
  - Vertical railings
  - Curtain and blind cords
  - Playground equipment

- Breaks, sprains, concussion and head injury

Consider making changes to items that were ticked **NO** for a safer home!

If you are still unsure, crawl around on your hands and knees to view your home as your child would, or visit [www.kidsafeqld.com.au](http://www.kidsafeqld.com.au) for more information.
### Home Safety Checklist

Check through your home one room at a time. Tick if the item requires further attention and note any changes you need to do to make your home safer. Plan when to make these changes.

*Every home is different. Some items in the following checklist may not apply in your home.*

#### Emergency and evacuation plan
- Is an emergency evacuation plan (including an agreed meeting spot) in place and is practised regularly? **Yes**
- Has a list of emergency contact numbers been created and placed near each phone? **Yes**

#### Throughout the home
- Are the floor coverings sound and free of trip hazards? **Yes**
- Are safety barriers installed at the top and bottom of stairs and steps to prevent falls? **Yes**
- Are the railings designed to prevent children climbing? **Yes**
- Is an emergency evacuation plan (including an agreed meeting spot) in place and is practised regularly? **Yes**
- Is furniture arranged to allow access and to avoid trip hazards and collisions? **Yes**
- Is furniture arranged to avoid trip hazards and collisions? **Yes**
- Is furniture (including cots and beds) positioned away from windows, blind cords, electrical outlets and ceiling fans? **Yes**
- Is furniture (including cots and beds) positioned away from windows? **Yes**
- Is furniture positioned away from windows? **Yes**
- Are heaters located at least one (1) metre away from any curtains or other flammable materials? **Yes**
- Are heaters, open fires and candles screened with a secured guard or inaccessible? **Yes**
- Are matches, cigarettes and lighters stored out of reach of children? **Yes**
- Are toys in good condition and suitable for the child’s age? **Yes**
- Are toys checked regularly for damage or loose parts? **Yes**
- Is ‘low fire danger’ nightwear worn? **Yes**
- Are electric blankets checked prior to fitting them to an older child’s bed? **Yes**
- Are highchair safe design? The top section of a bunk bed is NOT recommended for a child of under twelve (12) years of age. **Yes**
- Are toys stored where children can reach them without climbing? **Yes**
- Are toys in good condition and suitable for the child’s age? **Yes**
- Is the change table mat secure? **Yes**
- Are items needed for changing baby located at an arm’s reach of the change table? **Yes**
- Are safety catches installed on drawers and cupboards containing dangerous items? **Yes**
- Is the soaking bucket inaccessible to children? **Yes**
- Are button/lithium batteries and products containing button/lithium batteries out of reach of children, stored securely and always disposed of safely? **Yes**

#### Kitchen, dining and alcohol
- Is access to the kitchen when cooking restricted by use of a secure safety barrier? **Yes**
- Is a fire blanket/fire extinguisher located in the kitchen? **Yes**
- Are cleaning and hazardous products such as medications, chemicals, plastic bags, matches and lighters, batteries, etc. stored in a lockable cupboard or are inaccessible to children? **Yes**
- Do you use rear burners on the stove whenever possible and ensure pot handles are always turned away from the front of the stove? **Yes**
- Is the stove bolted to the wall to prevent tipping forward? **Yes**
- Is the dishwasher kept closed at all times? **Yes**
- Is the microwave positioned out of reach of children? **Yes**
- Are curtains kept away from stove or other appliances? **Yes**
- Are knives and other sharp objects stored in a lockable cupboard or are inaccessible to children? **Yes**
- Are safety catches installed on drawers and cupboards containing dangerous items? **Yes**
- Are kettles, toasters and appliance cords kept out of reach of children? **Yes**
- Are non-slip placemats are used instead of table cloths? **Yes**
- Are hot drinks and alcohol placed out of reach of children? **Yes**
- Is the hightchair stable and fitted with a five point safety harness? A five point safety harness should be fastened whenever highchair is in use. **Yes**
- Is alcohol stored in a child resistant cupboard? **Yes**
- Are hazardous substances such as cleaning products stored in a lockable cupboard or inaccessible to children? **Yes**
- Are poisonous substances stored in their original container? **Yes**
- Is the soaking bucket inaccessible to children and have a firm fitting lid? **Yes**
- Is the iron out of reach of children? **Yes**
- Is the lint filter in dryer cleaned regularly? **Yes**

#### Living room
- Is furniture arranged to allow access and to avoid trip hazards and collisions? **Yes**
- Is the furniture positioned away from windows? **Yes**
- Are large items of furniture, such as televisions, bookcases and entertainment units, secured to prevent them falling on children? **Yes**
- Are protective covers placed on sharp corners/edges of furniture? **Yes**
- Are heaters located at least one (1) metre away from any curtains or other flammable materials? **Yes**
- Are stickers or frosting applied to glass sliding doors to prevent collisions? **Yes**
- Is a separate play space provided for children? **Yes**
- Are toys checked regularly for damage or loose parts? **Yes**
- Are electrical appliances removed from the bathroom? **Yes**
- Are non-slip stickers or a non-slip suction mat used in the base of the bath or shower? **Yes**
- Are children supervised at all times in the bathroom? **Yes**
- Are children supervised at all times in the bathroom? **Yes**
- Is the ironing board out of reach of children (avoid radiating heaters)? **Yes**
- Is the bath water temperature always tested before putting the child in? Starting with cold, then hot, then finishing with cold water? **Yes**

#### Bathroom
- Is it a hot water temperature device installed so tap water is no hotter than 50°C? **Yes**
- Are bath taps inaccessible to children? **Yes**
- Are hazardous products such as shampoos, razors and medications stored in a lockable cupboard or inaccessible to children? **Yes**
- Are electrical appliances removed from the bathroom? **Yes**
- Are non-slip bath mat or floor surface provided? **Yes**
- Are non-slip stickers or a non-slip suction mat used in the base of the bath or shower? **Yes**
- Are children supervised at all times in the bathroom? **Yes**
- Are safety barriers installed at the top and bottom of stairs and steps to prevent falls? **Yes**
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#### Laundry
- Are hazardous substances such as cleaning products stored in a lockable cupboard or inaccessible to children? **Yes**
- Are poisonous substances stored in their original container? **Yes**
- Is the soaking bucket inaccessible to children and have a firm fitting lid? **Yes**
- Is the iron out of reach of children? **Yes**
- Is the lint filter in dryer cleaned regularly? **Yes**

#### Bedroom
- Is furniture (including cots and beds) positioned away from windows, blind cords, electrical outlets and ceiling fans? **Yes**
- Is furniture arranged to avoid trip hazards and collisions? **Yes**
- Does the cot comply with Australian Standards with cot rails? **Yes**
- Is the cot mattress firm and does it fit snugly? 50mm apart? **Yes**
- Is the cot free of soft toys, pillows, bumpers etc.? **Yes**
- Is ‘low fire danger’ nightwear worn? **Yes**
- Are electric blankets checked prior to fitting them to an older child’s bed? **Yes**

#### Garage and shed
- Is the garage and shed lockable? **Yes**
- Are poisonous and hazardous substances, such as paint, pesticides and flammable liquids, stored in a lockable cupboard or are inaccessible to children? **Yes**
- Are power tools and hardware etc. inaccessible to children? **Yes**
- Do children have restricted access to the garage and shed? **Yes**

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