

Features for a safe home

How safe is your home?

Three out of four serious injuries to young children occur in or around the home.

There are several safety features to help you make your home a safer place for children.



Pools (and spas) that are fully fenced, with well maintained, self-closing gates.



Why?

Young children drown quickly and silently. Around 20 children under five drown each year in unfenced pool or pools with poorly maintained fences or gates.

Barriers such as stairs and fireguards in place to keep children away from hazards.

Why?

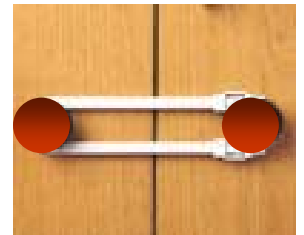
Falls down stairs and steps are common and because young children are 'top heavy', head injuries can often occur. Babies and toddlers don't understand "hot". They are attracted to bright colours – like the flames of a fire – and may touch hot surfaces while simply exploring their world.



Child resistant catches fitted to cupboards where dangers like medicines, cleaners, matches and lighters are stored.

Why?

Young children are curious and don't understand danger. Telling them "not to touch" is not always enough to keep them safe. Dangerous products need to be stored away safely.



Hot water from bathroom taps set at a delivery temperature of 50°.

Why?

Hot water burns like fire. Many Australian homes have hot water coming from their taps at temperature that can severely burn a child's skin in one second.



If these safety features were in place in Australian homes, they would assist in the prevention of injury and reduce the incidence of death in children under the age of 5.

Children learn by watching your actions. When installing any safety product, get down to your child's level and watch what your child is able to do.

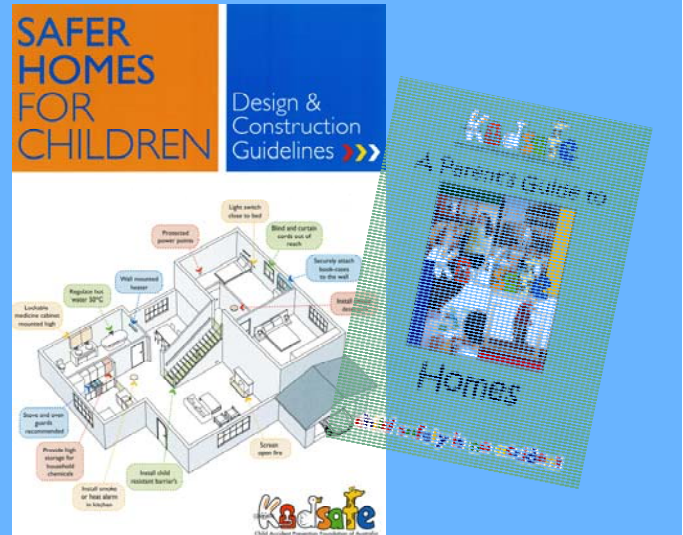
Smoke alarms installed and checked regularly.



Why?
House fires continue to claim Australian lives every year. Smoke alarms provide a warning that may be critical to survival.

Play areas fenced off from the street and the driveway.

Why?
Cars and kids don't mix. Young children have no fear of cars and are not easily seen by drivers. Each year children are injured from back overs in driveways.



Kidsafe NSW has publications available to assist in design and making homes safer for children -

- **A Parents Guide to Kidsafe Homes**
- **Safer Homes for Children—Design and Construction Guidelines**

The safety of your child in the home is in your hands!

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