

Keep Your Child Safe From Burns

Here are some quick home safety tips to prevent hot water and chemical burns.

Protect your child from chemical burns.

A chemical burn can result from contact with a liquid, powdered or solid chemical. These burns can be worse than they look because of the harmful effect of chemicals on the skin. Here are ways to prevent chemical burns:

- Lock up cleaning products such as bleach, paint remover and toilet, oven and drain cleaners. Store these out of your child's reach.
- Lock up house and garden supplies like plaster, mortar and fertilizer.
- Don't use fireworks. Even sparks from sparklers can cause serious burns.
- After using toxic products, clean and throw away containers.



Prevent hot-water burns.

It may surprise you to learn that every day, 300 children go to emergency rooms for burns caused by household hot water. Read these tips to stop your child from getting hot-water burns:

- Turn the hot-water heater down or ask your landlord to make sure that your hot water is no more than 120 degrees.
- Make sure your child's bath water is lukewarm before putting your child in the tub. Place your wrist or elbow in the water to check it. Always stay with young children at bath time.
- Get knob covers or face your child away from the faucets. Your child will be less likely to turn on the hot water this way.
- Do not eat, drink or carry hot things while you hold your child.
- Put your child in a child safety chair away from the stove while you cook. Turn pot handles to the back of the stove.
- Keep your child away from space heaters and radiators.

What should you do if your child gets a burn?

Stay calm and act fast. Note the type of burn and where it occurs on the body. Here's what to do next:

- If your child has been burned badly by hot water or a chemical, call 911. Run cool water over the burned area. Do not use ice.
- To treat a less serious chemical burn, call the Poison Control Center at **1-800-222-1222**. Have the product container with you so that you can describe what's in it.
- See a doctor if burns occur on the face, hands, sensitive areas or feet.
- See a doctor for any burn on an infant.

The good news: you can protect your child from getting burns.

Reduce the danger of burns by making your home safe. Talk to your doctor or nurse for more facts. Or call the National Safety Council at **1-800-621-7619**. You also can visit online at **www.nsc.org**.



Customer Care Center: 1-866-781-5094

**TTY line for members
with hearing and
speech loss:**

1-866-773-9634



Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; National Safety Council

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