

# Poison Facts:

## Poison-Proof Your Home

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Make sure your home is poison safe. Millions of people are accidentally poisoned in their own homes. Children are curious and may swallow or inhale various household products that can be potentially dangerous.

Review the following areas in your home, and make sure these potentially dangerous items are out of the reach of children. Better yet, make sure all dangerous items are securely stored in a locked cabinet. You also can use this checklist to prevent poisoning accidents in the homes of grandparents, babysitters and neighbors.

### **Kitchen**

- Dishwasher soaps, detergents and bleaches
- Carpet and upholstery cleaner
- Drain cleaner and oven cleaner
- Furniture, floor and silver polish
- Window and counter cleaners and ammonia
- Medicines, cough syrups and vitamins

### **Bathroom**

- Prescription and over-the-counter medicines
- Shampoos, conditioners and hair sprays
- Mouthwash, fluoride mouth rinse and toothpastes
- Rubbing alcohol and hydrogen peroxide
- Disinfectants and toilet bowl cleaners
- Nail care products
- Shaving creams and aftershave
- Hand and body lotions

### **Bedrooms**

- Prescription and over-the-counter medicines
- Perfumes, cologne and cosmetics

### **Laundry**

- Detergents, soaps, dyes and bluing agents
- Bleaches and stain removers
- Fabric softeners and other fabric-care products

### **Outside/Garage**

- Motor oil, antifreeze, gas additives and other car products
- Bug sprays, weed killers and other garden products
- Paint, thinners and solvents
- Chlorine, cleaning agents, muriatic acid and other pool supplies
- Gasoline, kerosene, lighter fluids and rust remover

### **Closets and storage areas**

- Ink, glue, adhesives and other craft supplies
- Detergents, soaps and dyes
- Stain removers, bleach and fabric-care products
- Damp-ridding products
- Mothballs

### **Miscellaneous**

- Alcohol and tobacco products
- Plants
- Lead paint, which can be found in paint chips and on toys
- Purses with medicines and lotions inside

### **For grandparents**

On occasion, grandparents may care for children in their home. Be sure to lock all medications in a cabinet, especially those without child-resistant closures. Keep updated information about each child near all phones. Information should include the name of the child's physician, parents' emergency numbers, the child's age and weight, and the child's allergies or medical conditions.

### **For babysitters**

Whether you are babysitting a child in your home or at the child's home, check all rooms the child will have access to for potentially dangerous items. If teenagers live in the home, make sure their rooms are off limits to the child. Children are very curious and may be attracted to hair sprays, colognes, deodorants and cosmetics found there.

Keep updated information about each child near all phones. Information should include the name of the child's physician, parents' emergency numbers, the child's age and weight, and the child's allergies or medical conditions.

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**For more poison prevention and first aid information, call the**

Poison Control Center

Serving the Residents of Kansas

Toll-free Hotline

1-800-222-1222

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS HOSPITAL

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