

Home Safety Checklist

Over 15,000 people die each year as a result of home accidents. The great majority of these deaths are preventable by the family members in those households. Doing a home safety inspections at least monthly can significantly reduce the chances of your being one of those statistics. Depending on *noticing* hazards does not work. Focused inspections are much more effective in actually identifying hazards. This is by no means a complete list of potential hazards. Think “what if” and assume a “worst case” situation as you go through each room.

Tripping and Falling Hazards

- Are there loose carpets, loose throw rugs, exposed extension cords, items on stairs, and worn stair treads that could cause a fall? []
- Are railings on stairs loose or broken? []
- Are damaged ladders and step stools still in use? []
- Does the tub and shower have grab bars installed? []
- Are your sidewalks free of cracks and holes? []

Fire Hazards

- Are their working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in: The basement, hallway and each sleeping room? []
- Does your family have a fire evacuation plan that everyone knows and has practiced? []
- Do you have fire extinguishers in the workshop, garage and kitchen? []
- Are flammables (gasoline, paint thinner, etc.) stored outside the house or in fire safe cabinets away from ignition sources such as furnaces stoves and hot water heaters? []
- Is your fireplace inspected and does it have a good screen to prevent sparks? []
- Is your furnace professionally inspected annually? []
- Are there exposed or frayed wires or plugs. Never run wires under carpeting? []
- Are all appliances grounded with three pronged plugs? []
- Are paper towels, curtains, packages and aerosol cans a safe distance from stove tops and other sources of ignition? []
- Are matches, lighters and other fire starters kept safe from children? []

General Emergencies

- Do you have a phone and flashlight next to every bed? []
- Do you have a fully stocked first aid kit? []
- Are firearms and ammunition stored securely and out of reach of children/ []

Chemicals and Medications

- Are all medications stored out of reach of children? []
- Are all acids, corrosive, poisonous and flammable household cleaners kept in locked cabinets out of the reach of children? []

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