



Home Tips®



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Q & A

Room-by-Room Checklist!

We saw a Room-by-Room safety check list in some publication, but cannot seem to locate it. Are you aware of a list that could help make our home safer?

The only one we are familiar with is one published by Allstate Insurance. The following is a reprint of the list:

ENTRY

- Shatterproof glass in doors and sidelights.
- Dead-bolt locks and heavy-duty strike plates.
- A peephole or intercom system to allow you to monitor who is at the door.
- Outdoor security lighting that is timer or motion-detector controlled.

LIVING, DINING & FAMILY ROOMS

- Extension cords placed safely away from areas where they could be stepped on or tripped over.
- Outlet surge protectors for audio, video and computer equipment.
- Windows kept free of furniture if small children are present.
- Programmable timers to turn lamps on and off when you're away.
- Window treatments free of dangling cords if small children are present.
- Safety caps on unused outlets.

KITCHEN

- A smoke detector.
- A fire extinguisher.
- A copy of first-aid procedures.
- Adequate task and general lighting.
- Safe storage for knives, food-processor blades and other sharp tools.
- Scatter rugs that have nonslip backings or that are attached with pads or double-faced tape.
- Childproof safety latches on cabinets that contain cleaning materials.
- Electrical outlets that are fitted with ground-fault circuit interrupters.
- Individual shut-off valves for each appliance.

- Flexible gas connectors located where they can't be bent.
- Short heavy-duty extension cords for appliances.
- A range hood or vent kept free of built-up grease.
- Storage for cloth items (such as hot pads and dish towels) and paper items well away from the range.
- Radios, televisions and small electric appliances located safety away from the sink.
- A list of emergency numbers located prominently near the phone.

LAUNDRY ROOM

- A smoke detector.
- A fire extinguisher.
- A carbon-monoxide detector (for a gas dryer).
- Regularly clean dryer venting.

BATHS

- An up-to-date first-aid kit.
- Anti-scald shower/tub water controls.
- Grab bars within easy reach in each tub and shower stall.
- Permanently recessed soap dishes to minimize chance of injury in a fall.
- Shatter-resistant faucet parts with no sharp edges.
- A shower stall light in a vapor-proof enclosure, with the switch located at least 6 feet away from the shower stall.
- Shower and tub doors made of impact-resistant safety glass.
- Slip-resistant flooring material.
- Scatter rugs securely anchored with pads or double-faced tape.
- Slip-resistant strips or mats in the shower or tub and on the floor, where water is likely to spill.
- A night light.
- Childproof safety latches on cabinets containing dangerous materials.
- An electrical outlet positioned away from water fixtures and fitted with a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

FURNACE ROOMS

- A smoke detector.
- A carbon-monoxide detector.
- A fire extinguisher.

BEDROOMS

- A smoke detector.
- A list of emergency phone numbers near the telephone.
- The control center for your home security system.

