

STAIR & FLOOR SAFETY

STAIRS:

- Clear stairs of all clutter. To help keep clutter off the stairs, place a basket near the stairs to hold items that belong on a different floor.
- Install a banister or handrail to both sides of stairs. Teach your children to use it and talk to them about being safe on the stairs.
- Replace baby walkers with a stationary activity center and place it away from stairs.

BABY GATES:

- Install stair and room gates when your child starts to sit up, as crawling and walking are not far behind.
- If you have stairs in your home, install stair gates at both the top and bottom of the stairs. For the top of the stairs, use a hardware-mounted gate, which is screwed into the wall and banister for stability. For the bottom of the stairs, you can use either a hardware-mounted or pressure-mounted stair gate.
- Install pressure-mounted gates in open doorways, to block access to rooms or unsafe areas.
- Mount gates no more than 2 inches from the floor, to prevent your child from crawling underneath.

- For gates that need to go around odd-shaped areas, uneven molding, or drywall with no support behind it, purchase safety gate extenders or installation kits to get a secure fit.
- Use gates that meet current safety standards, and check [recalls.gov](https://www.recalls.gov) for recall information.

FLOORS:

- Clear floors of all toys, clutter and spills.
- Make sure your area rugs have non-slip pads underneath to secure them.
- Keep cords out of the way, and wrap long cords that are plugged in all the time around a cord shortener.

LIGHTING:

- Keep hallways and stairways well-lit and use nightlights to light up any dark spaces, bathrooms and children's bedrooms.
- Replace burned-out light bulbs immediately.
- Place flashlights in easy-to-find spots around the house.

DOWNLOAD THE MAKE SAFE HAPPEN APP

Developed in partnership with the safety experts at Nationwide Children's Hospital, the app helps you make your home safer. Get room-by-room safety checklists, link to recommended products, and set reminders.



CONTENT DEVELOPED IN ASSOCIATION WITH:

