

# TOY SAFETY

## CHOOSING THE RIGHT TOYS:

- Check the recommended age range listed on the packaging to make sure all toys are appropriate for your child.
- For children 5 and under, make sure toys or games with small parts that could become a choking hazard are stored out of reach. To test the size of a toy, place it in a choke-tube tester or toilet paper roll – if it fits inside the tube it is too small.
- Choose well-made toys that can withstand the rigor of play and potential chewing by younger children. Also avoid sharp edges or pieces that can poke or pinch your child.
- Before giving your child a ride-along toy, make sure he or she can sit up without being supported and is within the recommended age range. When your child is ready to scoot, skate or bike, make sure he or she wears a helmet every time.

## TOY STORAGE TIPS:

- Store toys on open shelves that children can easily reach, and avoid containers with lids that could become potential traps for children.
- If you have a container or chest with a lid, install hinge supports to prevent the lid from falling on your child, and ensure the chest has air vents just in case your child does get stuck inside.

## TOYS THAT NEED EXTRA ATTENTION:

- Deflated or broken balloons can present serious choking hazards for kids under 8. Keep all balloons out of their reach.
- Loose batteries should be stored away, and battery-operated toys should have battery cases that can only be opened by an adult with a screwdriver.
- Children can get lead poisoning from chewing on toys that contain lead. Although newer toys manufactured in the U.S. should be free of lead, be extra careful with hand-me-downs, homemade toys or gifts from other countries.
- Keep magnetic toys that are not specifically designed for children's use out of their reach. Strong magnets can cause big problems if swallowed.
- Make sure your child's toys have not been recalled by checking [recalls.gov](http://recalls.gov)

---

## 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:

