



Kitchen

The kitchen is always the busiest room in any household - and for a young child, it can be the most dangerous too.

- Never leave a young child alone in the kitchen, even for a moment.
- When cooking, always use the back rings. If you have to use all the rings, turn pot and pan handles towards the back out of reach of inquisitive little fingers.
- Keep children away from hot surfaces such as oven doors, toasters and kettles.
- Keep hot food and drinks away from the edges of tables and worktops. Be especially careful with hot drinks, as a mug of tea or coffee can stay hot enough to scald a baby or toddler 20 minutes after it has been made.
- Do not hold a child when you have a hot drink in your hand.
- Chip pans are the most common cause of house fires. Never fill a chip pan more than one third full of oil and never leave a hot chip pan unattended.
- Never warm your baby's bottle in the microwave. The milk may heat up unevenly and leave spots of very hot milk that can scald a baby's mouth.
- Check that there are no dangling flexes for your child to grab and pull on - the iron cord, for example. Also, make sure you put the iron well out of reach to cool down after using it. Use a cordless kettle or one with a short or curly flex.
- Slippery spillages such as oil, water or food should be cleaned up from the kitchen floor immediately as these can easily lead to a fall. Broken glass or china should also be swept up immediately and the floor vacuumed thoroughly afterwards.
- Never leave sharp objects such as knives and scissors lying around. Store them away out of sight and out of reach.



- Make sure all cleaning materials, detergents, sprays and pesticides are kept well out of your child's reach on a high shelf or in a locked cupboard.
- Never leave bowls of pet food on the floor.
- If you smoke, make sure all matches, lighters and cigarettes are locked away in a drawer or kept on a high shelf. Cigarette butts should never be left in an ashtray and should be disposed of immediately, preferably in an outside bin.
- Never leave alcoholic drinks lying around for curious children to taste.
- Baby bouncers should always be placed on the floor and never on a raised surface as the baby's movements can easily cause it to topple and fall.
- High chairs should always be placed in the middle of the kitchen floor away from tables, sinks and work surfaces. Also, make sure your baby is securely strapped in, preferably with a 5-point harness.

For further advice and to get the full 36 page guide to In-Home child safety visit

www.goodegghomesafety.com

