

Prepare & Prevent

A room-by-room guide to help prevent unintentional poisonings in the home.

About **90,000** children are seen in emergency departments each year due to unintentional poison exposures. Think outside of the box—beyond the medicine and kitchen cabinets—when it comes to poison prevention.

Kitchen and Bath

Think “On Tight and Out of Sight.”

Most poisonings in the home are associated with commonly used medicines and household cleaners.

- Keep **medicines and household cleaners** in original child-resistant packaging. Re-secure lids after each use.
- Place medicines and household chemicals up high and out of sight.
- When high storage is not an option, store medicines and household chemicals in locked or latched cabinets with child-resistant locks/latches.



Bedrooms, Living & Family Rooms

Coin Cell-Size Danger.

In addition to a choking hazard, a swallowed coin cell battery in the throat can release hydroxide in as little as two hours, resulting in dangerous chemical burns.

- Keep remotes, keyless entry controls, gaming devices and other small electronics with small, **coin cell-size batteries** out of a child’s reach.
- Use tape to help secure a battery compartment that does not have a screw.
- Keep spare batteries out of the reach of children.



Laundry Room

A New Product Brings New Hazards.

Single-load laundry packets look like candy or a teething ring, but they can be poisonous.

- Store all laundry products up high and out of sight.
- Leave laundry products, such as highly concentrated **single-load laundry packets**, sealed in their original packaging.



Basement, Garage, Attic

Be on the Lookout for the “Invisible Killer.”

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas and if you have fuel-burning appliances, a car and/or a portable generator, take note.

- Install **CO alarms** in the hallway near bedrooms/sleeping areas. Test alarms frequently and replace dead batteries.
- Have heating system inspected and serviced annually by a trained service technician.
- Operate portable generators outdoors and 20 feet away from open doors, windows and vents.

