

Children Act Fast, So Do Poisons



Keep her safe.

**Lock poisons up —
keep them
out of sight
and out of reach.**

**POISON
Help.**
1-800-222-1222
poison.org

When children get into household products or medicines, Poison Control is just one call or click away. For more tips, or help with a possible poisoning, visit poison.org or use the webPOISONCONTROL® app.

During COVID it's important to know how to keep your environment safe. [These tips can help.](#)

Poison Control offers this advice for household products...

How can I store and use household products safely?

- Store cleaning products safely: Store food and non-food products separately in your home. Keep the original label on the container intact. Use child-resistant containers whenever possible and be sure they are closed properly. Learn more tips by visiting nyc.gov/health and searching for poison proof your home.
- Use cleaning products safely: When used correctly, bleach and other cleaning products are helpful to prevent the spread of germs. Only use one cleaning product at a time. Mixing cleaning products, such as ammonia and bleach, creates a poisonous gas. Open a window whenever possible to make sure there is air flow.
- Be careful with hand sanitizer: Hand sanitizer may be difficult to find in the store right now. Making home hand sanitizer is not recommended because, if not made properly, it may not be effective in infection control and prevention. In addition, improperly-made hand sanitizer can cause damage to your skin. Ingestion of any alcohol-based hand sanitizer and excessive topical use of hand sanitizer, especially for children, can also be dangerous. Typical use of topical hand sanitizer on hands alone should be fine.

More information on disinfectant safety during COVID can be found [here](#).

Always keep all spray bottle nozzles in the off position and out of the reach of children.

Please familiarize yourself with this general [guide](#) to poison and prevention information by substance. In addition here are some [poison prevention tips specific to toddlers](#) See if you can spot the hazards in [this video](#)

Besides household products, medications are also a big risk for unintentional poisonings amongst children. The New York State Medication Training program has these tips to offer when it comes to medications...

- Store all medication safely.
- Medication needs to be kept in an area out of children's reach and sight.
- Keep all medication in its original labeled container.
- Use childproof containers whenever possible.
- Never leave medication unattended.
- Always return medication to the storage area immediately after use.
- Never call medicine "candy."
- Keep important phone numbers, such as the Poison Control Hotline, on or near your telephone.
- Always follow the Five Rights when giving medication to children.

If you suspect a child has accidentally taken medication or other poison, call the Poison Control number immediately. Do not wait for the child to look or feel sick.

Many medications look similar to candy see if you can tell the difference. [Is it Medicine or Candy?](#)

Here is a [poison lookout checklist](#) that you can share with families.

Poison Control Hotline 1-800-222-1222

(please save this number in your cell phone)

When you call the Poison Control Hotline be prepared to provide the following information:

- Your name and the name of the person poisoned
- The telephone number you are calling from
- The age and weight of the person poisoned
- The name and amount of the product or substance involved
- How long ago the poisoning happened
- Any symptoms the poisoned person is having

