

# Protect Your Child From Accidental Poisoning

Accidental poisoning is on the rise in young children. Follow these guidelines to keep your little ones safe.



## Medications

### Storage

- Store all medicines **out of reach and out of sight.**

### Use & Dosage

- Use the measuring device that is packaged with the medicine. **A kitchen teaspoon is not an appropriate measuring device** for giving medications to children.
- **Do not give medicine to a child more often or in greater amounts than is stated on the package.** Too much medicine may lead to serious and life-threatening side effects.
- **Ask a health care provider** if you are unsure about the right product for your child.
- **Do not give children medicine that is packaged and made for adults.** Use only products marked for use with infants or children.

### Disposal

- **Throw out any expired medications.**
- To dispose of medications, **tie them up in a non-see-through bag and take them directly to your outdoor garbage bin.**

Sources:

["Spring Cleaning for Your Child's Safety," Southern Early Childhood Association](#)

[American Association of Poison Control Centers](#)



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## Cleaning/Household Products

### Storage

- **Keep household chemicals in a high, locked cabinet.** These include cleaners, pesticides, automotive fluids, etc.
- **Install a locking safety latch** on any child-accessible cabinets that contain harmful products.
- Ensure that all products are **properly labeled.**

### Disposal

- Follow the EPA's recommendations regarding household hazardous waste, located online at <http://www.epa.gov/waste/conservematerials/hhw.htm>.
- For products that you place in the garbage, **tie them up in a non-see-through bag and take them directly to your outdoor garbage bin.**

## Cosmetics & Toiletries

### Storage

- Keep cosmetics and toiletries **in a locked drawer or at the back of a counter** where your child cannot reach them.
- Hazardous products include **hair dyes and relaxers, perfumes and colognes, nail products, mouthwash, etc.**
- Make sure all products are properly labeled.

### Disposal

- Follow the same recommendations for cleaning/household products (above).