

# Home Safety Checklist

Program Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Provider Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Quarter

Jan Apr Jul Oct

## KITCHEN AND BATHROOM

1. Household cleaning products, insecticides and poisons are stored in their original containers, in high cupboards or locked areas.
2. Medicines and non-prescriptions (including vitamins) are stored out of children's reach in the original containers. Prescription and non-prescription medication for children in care must be kept in the original container. A written authorization for the medicine is on file, signed by parent(s) and dated for each administered dose. Where are medicines and vitamins stored?
3. Cabinets that contain potentially harmful or dangerous items within a child's reach have safety latches or locks on the cabinet doors.
4. Knives and other sharp objects are kept out of children's reach. Where are knives and sharp objects stored?
5. To minimize risk of burns:
- Hot liquids, foods, and cooking utensils are out of children's reach.
  - Hot liquids and food are placed away from table's edge.
  - Cooking takes place on back burners when possible. Pot handles are turned toward the stove's center.
  - Tablecloths and placemats that can be yanked off are not used.
  - High chairs and stools are not near stove.
  - Snacks are not near stove.
  - Cooking oils are not stored near stove or above in cupboards.
6. Your home's hot water is adjusted to 120 degrees or less to prevent tap water scalds. *Water temperature can be tested with a thermometer.*
7. All foods, plastic bags (including balloons) and small, choke-able items are out of children's reach. *(If it fits inside a toilet paper roll, it can choke a small child).* Where are plastic bags, balloons and small items stored?

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- 8. Solid food is cut into small pieces for infants and toddlers to prevent choking.
- 9. A sink with hot and cold running water is close to diapering and toileting areas. If the kitchen sink is used for hand washing after toileting, the sink and faucets are disinfected after each use.
- 10. Children are never left unattended on the changing table.

### THROUGHOUT THE HOME

- 11. Flammable or combustible materials are in accurately marked containers and stored in areas inaccessible to children. Where are flammable and combustible substances stored?
  
- 12. Toys are free from loose parts, sharp edges, points and long cords.
- 13. Gates are used at the top and bottom of the stairs when toddlers are present. If gates are used in the home, please list where and why.
  
- 14. Children's clothing with cords and drawstrings that may cause strangulation are removed.
- 15. Toy chests either have a lightweight lid, no lid, or a safe-closing mechanism.
- 16. Windows have screens that are secure.
- 17. The provider always has a working phone with them.
- 18. Emergency telephone numbers are near or in the phone. (EMS, police, fire department, local hospital or physician, poison control, your phone number, emergency back-up and parents' home and work)
- 19. Indoor and outdoor poisonous plants are out of children's reach.  
([Madison Poison Control Center plant safety](#)) Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222
- 20. Outlet plugs and/or covers are installed on all electrical outlets.
- 21. Window blind cords are out of children's reach.
- 22. If firearms are stored on the premises, they are locked, unloaded and inaccessible to children. Ammunition is stored separately. Where are firearms and ammunition stored?

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## NAP AREAS

23. Infants up to one year of age are placed on their backs to sleep ([Sleep Baby Safe](#)).
24. The crib is safe.
- Crib mattress fits snugly with no more than two fingers breadth between the mattress and crib railing.
  - Soft fluffy bedding, bumper pads, positioning devices (such as wedges), heavy blankets, and stuffed toys are removed from the baby's sleeping area.
  - Sleeping babies are checked to see that each baby's head and face remain uncovered during sleep.
  - The distance between crib slats is less than 2-3/8 inches.
  - Sides of infant cribs are in locked position when in use.
  - Cribs are cleaned and disinfected regularly.

## FIRE SAFETY

25. Electrical appliances (toaster, hairdryer, space heater, coffee pot, etc.) are unplugged or turned off when not in use.
26. There are two unobstructed exits on each floor. Identify your exits.
27. Wood burning stoves are inspected yearly and vented properly. Stoves are inaccessible to children.
28. Fireplace hearths have protective covering on hard or sharp edges.
29. Smoke detectors are installed and maintained in operating condition on each level of the home and in sleeping/napping areas.
- Smoke detectors are tested monthly. Testing is documented.
  - Batteries are replaced twice per year.

The battery-replacement dates for the current year:

Date#1: \_\_\_\_\_ Date #2: \_\_\_\_\_

30. A working fire extinguisher, with a minimum rating of 2A - 10 BC, is present in the home and inspected yearly. Where is your working fire extinguisher?

Date of most recent inspection:

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- 31. Smoking is prohibited on the premises during child care hours. If smoking occurs outside of child care hours, cigarette butts and matches are safely disposed.
- 32. All space heaters are approved, in safe condition, and out of children's reach. They are placed at least three feet from curtains, papers, and furniture. They have protective covers.
- 33. Electrical cords are not frayed. Electrical sockets are not overloaded. Cords are placed out of children's reach.

### EMERGENCY PRACTICES

- 34. A first aid kit containing the following materials is readily available (indoors, outdoors & on field trips): Disposable gloves, wipes, plastic bags, band aids, sterile gauze, first aid tape, scissors, and thermometer. Where is your first aid kit stored?
- 35. Provider conducts monthly emergency drills (i.e. tornado, fire evacuation). Dates and times are documented. Describe tornado drill routine:

Describe fire evacuation routine:

# Home Safety Checklist

## CAR SAFETY

- 36. Children less than 12 years old ride in the back seat with size-appropriate child restraints or lap-shoulder restraints.
- 37. Rear-facing infant safety seats are used until infants weigh at least 20 pounds and are one year old.
  - All car seats are secured in the back seat of the car.
  - Seats follow manufacturer's instructions and expiration guidelines.
  - Test for tightness by pushing the seat forward, backward, and side-to-side. Tighten the belt to ensure that the seat does not move more than ½ inch (1 cm).
  - For proper adjustment, the seat belt buckle and latch plate (if needed) must be located well below the frame or toward the center of the seat.
- 38. Children under 40 pounds use car seats.
- 39. Children 40-80 lbs. and/or less than 4'9" use booster seats and seat belts.
- 40. Children are never left unattended in a car.

## OUTDOOR AREA

- 41. Garden tools and lawn equipment, pesticides and herbicides are stored out of reach of children. Where do you store these items?
- 42. Playground equipment is assembled and anchored according to manufacturer's instructions. Equipment is free from breaks, rust and splinters.
- 43. Cushioning materials (i.e. mats, wood chips, or sand) are used under climbing equipment, slides, and Swings--according to Wisconsin State Licensing's recommended guidelines for depth.
- 44. If children have access to your garage, it is properly child proofed.
- 45. The yard is checked and cleared any animal waste daily and before children gain access to the yard.
- 46. Children do not have access to any bodies of water during hours of care, such as in-ground pools, on-ground swimming pools with rigid sides, hot tubs, lakes, or irrigation ditches (*exception: wading pools*). A permanent barrier or other measure prevents children from gaining access to these areas.
- 47. If wading pools are used:
  - The water is changed daily. The pool disinfected daily.
  - Sight and sound supervision of pools at all times.

Quarter 1 date completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Quarter 2 date completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Quarter 3 date completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Quarter 4 date completed: \_\_\_\_\_