Home Water Safety Checklist

A one-page, room-by-room checklist to find and fix drowning hazards at home: bathtubs, toilets, buckets, coolers, doors, hot tubs and pools.

Letter page · For parents, caregivers

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Nearly 90 children drown inside U.S. homes each year, two-thirds of them in the bathtub, and it can happen in 2 inches of water (CPSC). Walk through your home and tick each fix.

Bathroom

- [ ] A hand stays on the baby for the whole bath, even with a bath seat or infant tub.
- [ ] Doorbell or phone? Wrap the baby in a towel and take them with you.
- [ ] Children under 6 don't bathe alone, and older siblings don't supervise them.
- [ ] Toilet lids stay down (with lid locks for toddlers) and the bathroom door stays latched.

Around the house

- [ ] Buckets, coolers, wading pools and rain-filled bins are emptied right after use.
- [ ] Doors to the yard, garage or pool have locks or alarms a child can't reach.
- [ ] Any pool is fenced on all four sides, and the hot tub cover is locked.
- [ ] Everyone knows: if a child is missing, check the water first.

What you can do today: fix one thing before bedtime. Learn more in water hazards room by room and bath time safety, or try Home water hazard audit.

Sources

1. In-Home Drowning (Safety Education Center), U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. https://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/In-Home-Drowning-Safety-Information-Center
2. Infant Drowning Prevention & Water Safety, American Academy of Pediatrics (HealthyChildren.org). https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/at-play/Pages/Infant-Water-Safety.aspx
3. Drowning Prevention for Curious Toddlers, American Academy of Pediatrics (HealthyChildren.org). https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/at-play/Pages/Water-Safety-And-Young-Children.aspx
4. Home Pool & Hot Tub Safety, American Red Cross. https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/water-safety/home-pool-safety.html

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