

# Your Health Checklist: Toy Safety Tips

Toys do more than make your child smile. They help your child learn about themselves and the world around them. So help keep playtime safe. Follow this checklist when choosing toys.

DO: Choose toys that are appropriate for your child's age and skills. Check the packaging for the toy's recommended age range. DO: Store toys in a safe container. Baskets or bins without lids are best. Avoid boxes with hinges that could catch little fingers. If you have a toy chest, make sure it has air holes and is easy to open from the inside. DO: Keep toys for younger and older children separate.

DO: Clean your child's toys with mild dish soap to remove dirt or food. If your child is sick, disinfect their toys at least once a day to help prevent the spread of germs. DO: Give your child safety gear for a toy, if needed. For example, buy a helmet to go along with a bike.

DO NOT: Give small children toys with points, edges, strings, small parts, small batteries, or high-powered magnets. These can cause injury, including choking and strangulation. DO NOT: Forget to read the instructions before letting your child play with a toy.

Follow this checklist to help your child stay safe while having fun.