

HOLIDAY SAFETY LIST

General Rules for Holiday Safety

The holidays can be a dangerous time of the year.

With a few extra precautions, you can make sure that this holiday's biggest surprises come with a bow on top!

Give the gift of safety!

You can help your kids play smart and safe.

St. Joseph's Children's Hospital of Tampa wishes you and your family a safe and happy holiday season!

- Choose toys that match the child's age and skill level.
- Supervise children while they play. Toys for older children may be dangerous to infants and toddlers.
- Check new and old toys often for damage. Make repairs immediately or throw away damaged toys.
- Remember to always buckle up on every ride and use child safety seat for children under 80 pounds
- Learn infant and child CPR in case of an emergency. Also, know where the nearest pediatric emergency center is located.
- Keep matches, lighters and candles out of the reach of children.
- Be familiar with how to operate each type of fire extinguisher in the home.
- Never leave your child unattended in a room with an open fire, candles or space heater. Teach children that heaters and fires are hot and dangerous.
- As you do your holiday housecleaning, be sure to keep all cleaning materials out of the reach of children.
- Keep tree lights and cords away from children. Electrical cords and outlets can cause severe burns and electrical shock.

Take a stand for children. We are!



Fire and Burn Safety

- When buying an artificial tree, look for safety labels that state the tree is fire resistant.
- Fresh trees are less of a fire hazard than dry trees. Check for freshness by bouncing the trunk on the ground. If the needles fall off, the tree is too dry.
- Place trees far away from fireplaces, heaters or any heat source.
- Remove the tree after the needles begin to fall off.
- Use only lights that have been tested and labeled for safety.
- Unplug all outdoor and tree lights before you go to bed or leave the house.
- Keep bubbling lights away from children. If broken, the glass is sharp, and the liquid contains a hazardous chemical.
- Never use lighted candles on or near the tree.
- Keep candles away from other decorations and wrapping paper.



Poison Prevention

- Artificial snow sprays can be dangerous if inhaled. Follow directions carefully and read container labels.
- Throw away half-empty alcoholic beverages after parties. The alcohol in one drink can cause serious health problems in a small child.
- Even a nibble of some poisonous plants can be dangerous for children. Learn the name of plants growing in and around your home. Common poisonous plants are: Christmas Pepper, Holly, Mistletoe berries, and Poinsettia Plants. Keep these and other poisonous plants away from children under five years old.

Choking Hazards

- Bowls of nuts and hard candies should be safely stored away from children under five years old.
- Hang only unbreakable and plastic ornaments on lower branches of the tree. Be sure there are no loose or small pieces attached to them
- Avoid decorations that look like candy or food. A child may mistake them for the real thing!

***St. Joseph's Children's Hospital of Tampa Steinbrenner Emergency/Trauma Center is located at:
3001 W. Dr Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Tampa, Florida (813) 870-4104***

*For more information about Holiday Safety or other programs offered through
St. Joseph's Children's Advocacy Center please call (813) 615-0589.
1401A East Fowler Avenue, Tampa, Florida 33612*



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