

Travel Safe with Small Children



Staying somewhere new? Check for these common hazards when you arrive, ask your host the right questions, and bring essentials to make the space safe.



General

- Make sure there is at least one working smoke detector on each level of the home you're staying in.
- If there are firearms in the home, they should be stored in a locked area separate from ammunition.
- Put away small items that your child could choke on, like button batteries from remotes. If it can fit through a toilet paper roll, it's too small.
- Does your host have pets? Talk to your child about not touching pets without an adult present, and ask for help to ensure someone is always watching so not bites or scratches occur.



Living Room

- Stairs are a falling hazard. Bring baby gates for the top and bottom of the staircase, if possible.
- Block off fireplaces and supervise children closely around them to prevent burns.
- TVs and furniture can tip over and cause injuries. Ask in advance if heavy items are secured to the wall, or how to close off rooms with dangerous items inside.



Kitchen

- Bring a cabinet lock to secure any household cleaners and chemicals, or temporarily relocate them somewhere your child can't access.
- Turn pot and pan handles toward the back of the stovetop so your child can't reach up and pull them down.
- Have eyes on your child the entire time he or she is in the kitchen.



Bedroom

- Know where your child will sleep before you arrive and bring their safe sleep environment, like a portable pack and play, if necessary. If you are borrowing one when you arrive, make sure it aligns with today's safety standards.
- If you're staying with family, small children and babies should not share beds with older kids.
- Bring window locks for any second story windows that may not have them.



Bathroom

- If you travel with medications, ensure they are stored up high out of your child's reach, and ask that your hosts do the same while you're there.
- Water heater settings vary between homes, so make sure the water temperature is safe before letting your child get into the bathtub.
- Always fully drain bath water, close toilet lids, and shut bathroom doors. Children can drown in even small amounts of water.



Outside

- Children are drawn to pools, ponds, hot tubs, and other bodies of water that present drowning risks. Ask if there is a fence around the water, and consider bringing a door alarm to alert adults if your child tries to go outside. Tape signs to doors asking that they remain locked at all times.
- Add a baby gate or block off any stairs off a back porch or deck to prevent falls.



For more information on child safety and injury prevention, visit wolfsonchildrens.com/safekids.