



**Risk Assessment**

You can use this risk assessment to monitor the safety in your home. It covers many of the most common safety hazards found in family homes. It is not exhaustive and you might identify other risks that you can add to this list.

Remember to review this checklist regularly to ensure that your safety standards have not slipped and to take into account children's changing needs.

**Living, sleeping and play areas - risks to look out for include:**

- ❖ Banisters or railings that wobble, or with spaces where children could trap their heads or feet
- ❖ Electrical sockets not covered
- ❖ Cracked, broken, dirty toys or equipment
- ❖ Dangerous items (alcohol, matches, medication, plastic bags etc) accessible to children
- ❖ Open fires and portable heaters with no fire guards
- ❖ Radiators hot enough to burn a child
- ❖ No stair gates if caring for babies or toddlers
- ❖ Toys and other items that don't meet current safety standards
- ❖ Trailing table cloths, blind pulls, curtain cords etc. that could be tripped over
- ❖ Blocked fire exits
- ❖ Slippery rugs and loose carpets
- ❖ Low level glass (e.g. in doors, coffee tables, and tv units) that isn't safety glass
- ❖ Safety catches not fitted on windows
- ❖ Smoke alarms not fitted or not working
- ❖ Signs of infestation by vermin
- ❖ Poisonous house plants within children's reach

Risks identified

Action to be taken

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**Bathrooms and cloakrooms - risks to look out for include:**

- ❖ Dangerous items (cleaning fluids, razor blades, medication) accessible to children
- ❖ Electrical switches (should be pull cords)
- ❖ Unhygienic flannels, sponges, towels or nappy changing arrangements
- ❖ Slippery baths, shower trays and floors



**Risk Assessment**

Risks identified

Action to be taken

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**Kitchens, eating areas and utility rooms** - risks to look out for include:

- ❖ Dangerous items (sharp knives, cleaning fluids, matches etc.) accessible to children
- ❖ Unhygienic food preparation or storage arrangements
- ❖ Unhygienic dish cloths, mops and tea towels
- ❖ Pets allowed on tables and work surfaces
- ❖ Pet's food and/or litter trays accessible to children
- ❖ Harnesses on highchairs broken or missing
- ❖ Flexes trailing from kettles, irons etc.
- ❖ No fire blanket

Risks identified

Action to be taken

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**Gardens and outside areas** - risks to look out for include:

- ❖ Climbing frames, slides or swings – broken, not fixed securely or positioned on a hard surface
- ❖ Points where children could escape from the garden
- ❖ Ponds, pools or water butts accessible to children
- ❖ Sheds, greenhouse and cellars accessible to children
- ❖ Poisonous plants accessible to children
- ❖ Dangerous equipment (tools, machines, chemicals) within reach
- ❖ Loose paving stones, steps or manhole covers
- ❖ Garden toys or furniture dirty or broken
- ❖ Broken gates, walls and fences
- ❖ Animal mess or signs of infestation by vermin



**Risk Assessment**

Risks identified

Action to be taken

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**Vehicles** - risks to check for include:

- ❖ Children's car seats, broken, wrong size or not provided at all
- ❖ Inappropriate or invalid motor insurance

- ❖ No child proof locks on rear doors
- ❖ No MOT

Risks identified

Action to be taken

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Any other risks:

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Date: / /