

Home Safety Risk Areas

Dangers for seniors

- **Falling**
 - Staircases/steps
 - Low-level falls
 - Uneven surfaces/ground
 - Slipping on wet surfaces (bathroom)
 - Ladders/stools
- **Medical conditions**
 - Heart attack
 - Stroke
 - other
- **Burns/scalds**
- **Tip overs (TV, furniture)**
- **Prescriptions drugs**
- **Kitchen fires**
- **Electrical shock**
- **Lack of home security/burglars**

Top Ten causes of home fatality in in US:

- **Falls**
 - a. Children – stairs
 - b. Bathrooms wet slips
 - c. Water, ice, oil
- **Poisoning**
 - a. Store cleaning suppose in cabinets
 - b. Paint/pesticides in garage/sheds
 - c. Monitor children in kitchen
 - d. Label all unmarked containers
 - e. Have Poison Control Center numbers at hand
- **Carbon Monoxide**
 - a. Have detectors/test
 - b. Check heaters annually
- **Fire**
 - a. Install smoke detectors/test
 - i. Consider alarms that contact fire department directly
 - b. Never leave a cooking pan unattended
 - c. Switch off Christmas lights before bed
 - d. Never leave a candle burning overnight
 - e. Have a fire safety plan

- **Drowning**
 - a. 1-4 year olds can drown in 2 inches of water
 - b. Always supervise babies when bathing
 - c. Keep toilet lids closed
 - d. Fence swimming pools
 - e. Don't use electrical items in bathroom
- **Choking and Strangulation**
 - a. Always watch small children
 - b. Know Heimlich maneuver
 - c. Use age-appropriate toys
 - d. Follow safety procedures when putting babies to sleep
 - e. Cut up food/tech to chew
- **Sharps/Children**
 - a. Keep kitchen knives in draws or locked
 - b. Learn to use
 - c. Store rakes, saws, lawn movers in garden sheds
- **Stoves**
 - a. Use burners at back if children present
 - b. Face pan handles inward
- **Dishwashers**
 - a. Knives/forks tines downward
 - b. Unload when finished
- **Suffocation**
 - a. Keep trash bags away from children
 - b. Keep strings. cords. ropes out of reach of children