

Gun Safety Tips

Everything you need to know about keeping kids safe around guns.

We need to take extra precautions when kids are in an environment where guns are present.

Store Guns and Ammunition Safely

- Store guns in a locked location, unloaded, out of the reach and sight of children.
- Store ammunition in a separate locked location, out of the reach and sight of children.
- Keep the keys and combinations hidden.
- When a gun is not in its lock box, keep it in your line of sight.
- Make sure all guns are equipped with effective, child-resistant gun locks.
- If a visitor has a gun in a backpack, briefcase, handbag or an unlocked car, provide them with a locked place to hold it while they are in your home.
- Leaving guns on a nightstand, table or other place where a child can gain access may lead to injuries and fatalities.

Talk to Your Kids and Their Caregivers

- Explain how a gun your kids might see on television or a video game is different from a gun in real life.
- Teach kids never to touch a gun and to immediately tell an adult if they see one.
- Talk to grandparents and the parents of friends your children visit about safe gun storage practices.

Dispose of Guns You Don't Need

- If you decide that you no longer need to have a gun in your home, dispose of it in a safe way. Consult with law enforcement in your community on how to do so.

It is estimated that about one third of households with children ages 17 and under have a gun in the home.

