

## Is Your Baby Safe at Home?

## Part 3 — **Falls**

Babies are natural explorers. Some are "stand-uppers," some are climbers, and some are rollers. They reach, they lean, they climb and they fall. Some of their falls can be very serious. You can help prevent falls by watching out for some of these danger spots ...

- Carseats or highchairs without safety straps
- Exposed fireplace hearths
- Furniture that is easily climbed
- Furniture with sharp corners
- Open porch rails
- Open stairways
- Slippery bathtubs or floors

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Never leave your child alone.



## Be sure that you...

- KNOW where the baby is every minute.
- PUT gates at top and bottom of stairs the baby might climb.
- KEEP toys and other items off the stairs and out of pathways.
- **REPLACE** screens that fit loosely in windows, or that are torn or rusted.
- PUT screening over porch railings.
- USE a car seat especially designed for the size of the baby.
- **PREPARE** for the day when the baby can roll off the table, crawl off the bed, stand up in the carriage or high chair, climb out of the crib. It may not be today—but it might be tomorrow!
- USE seat straps on high chairs.
- LOWER crib mattresses when baby begins to stand.
- **REMOVE** or block furniture that can be climbed easily.
- PUT plastic guards on furniture with sharp corners.
- COVER exposed edges of fireplace hearths with pillows, towels, or blankets.
- USE a plastic safety mat in the bathtub.

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