Consumer Product Safety Alert

FROM THE U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

Safety Devices Help Prevent Deaths and Injuries

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) recommends that consumers purchase and use safety devices to help prevent deaths and injuries associated with hazards in or around the home.

HAZARD AND ANNUAL TOLL

SAFETY DEVICE

Home Fires (4,400 deaths, thousands of injuries)



Smoke detectors

cost as little as \$10 each, and you need at least one smoke detector per floor per household. Fire extinguishers also are available for as little as \$10 each.

Bicycles (800 deaths, 500,000 injuries)

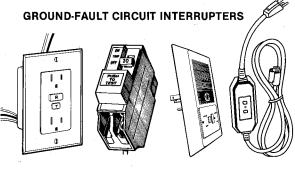


Bicycle helmets

can reduce head injuries by up to 85%. Helmets range in price from \$20 to \$150. Each rider needs a properly-fitted helmet.

Electrocutions

(300 electrocution deaths, thousands of electric shock injuries)



RECEPTACLE

CIRCUIT BREAKER PORTABLE PLUG-IN PORTABLE CORD TYPE

Ground-fault circuitinterrupters (GFCIs)

for electrical circuits can help prevent deaths and serious injuries. Portable GFCIs are available at prices ranging from \$12 to \$30. Receptacle GFCIs cost between \$9 and \$13, and circuit breaker GFCIs cost \$35 to \$50, not including installation. Hair dryers with built-in shock protection can help prevent electrocution deaths. The protected hair dryers cost about \$5 more than hair dryers without this feature.

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Safety Devices Help Prevent Deaths and Injuries (Continued)

HAZARD AND ANNUAL TOLL

SAFETY DEVICE

Child drownings in swimming pools (300 drowning deaths, 2,350 injuries

A fence surrounding all four sides with self-closing and self-latching gates

around swimming pools can cost as little as \$3.50 per linear foot. If the fence perimeter is 300 feet, the price could be \$1,050.

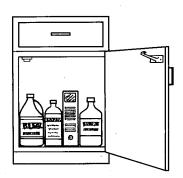
Poisonings

treated in

rooms

emergency

(42 deaths, approximately one million exposures to medicines or household chemicals)

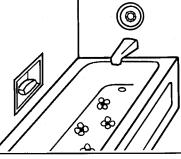


Safety latches for kitchen, bathroom, and workshop cabinets

can help keep household chemicals and medicines locked up away from children. Use the child-resistant closures that come on most medicines and chemicals. Safety closures save lives.

Tap water scalds

(34 deaths, 3,800 burn injuries)



Anti-scald devices

range in price from \$15 to \$75, not including installation. Antiscald devices can keep water temperature below 120 degrees Fahrenheit to help prevent scald burns.

Strangulation/suffocation with chests used to store toys

(3 deaths, several injuries)

A spring-loaded lid-support device can keep a lid from fall

can keep a lid from falling on a child's neck or from closing and trapping a child playing inside

the chest. This device costs about \$7.50 and should be used on all chests that store toys.