

# Bedroom Safety for Children of All Ages

A child's bedroom can be a multi-purpose room, used for sleeping, quiet time, or play. The bedroom should also be a safe place for your child. Take time to ensure your child's safety won't stop at the bedroom door.

If the windows in your child's room have window blinds, make sure the blinds and all their parts (like the strings are used to raise and lower the blinds) are not accessible to your child. These can present a strangulation danger.

Keep furniture away from the windows. This includes a crib or bed, dresser, changing table, or shelf.

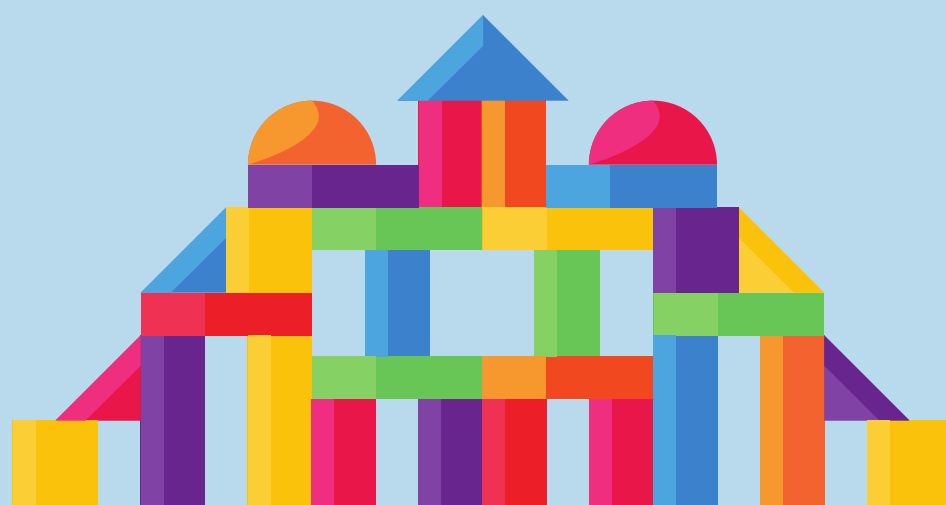
Make a crib a safe place for your child. Never use a pillow for a baby or small child. To prevent your child's head from getting caught between the bars, make sure crib slats are no more than 2 3/8 inches apart. Make sure the mattress fits snugly — no more than two fingers should fit between the mattress and the side of the crib.

If you find your child can climb out of a crib, it's time to consider them moving to a regular bed. Don't forget to use guard rails, or use a toddler bed (or even put the mattress on the floor) until your child becomes used to sleeping in a bed.

Make sure the bedroom door will not lock from the inside. Remove the lock, or change the door knob if it has a lock.

Furniture, such as shelves or dressers, should be secured to the wall to prevent a child from pulling them over. Heavy items (like a television or mirror) should never be placed on top of furniture where a child might climb or pull the furniture over. Keep closed dresser drawers to discourage a curious child from using them as steps.

Your child's bedroom, like other rooms of your home, should have childproof plugs in electric plugs.



Toys should be age-appropriate. Check the recommended age range for all your child's toys. Check for choking hazards for children under the age of three.

