

# HOW TO BABY PROOF YOUR APARTMENT

Apartment Guide Editorial Team 
 Published: August 17, 2011 
 Updated: December 30, 2018



As a new parent, you know how fast your baby grows. Just when you get used to your baby's feeding schedule and diaper changes, you realize you need to accommodate his or her ever-changing routine. As your baby grows older, take some precautions to make your apartment safe and secure for crawlers and toddlers. Here is how you can baby-proof your apartment as your growing baby explores the world around him or her.

For the first three months, you may have not given much thought about how safe your apartment is for babies. They don't really move much as you carry them back and forth to their cribs, playpens, car seats and strollers. But be prepared after four months to think about the nooks and crannies that your baby will be exposed to as soon as she starts to crawl.

## Step 1: Inspect from a baby's eye-level

One of the best ways to see potential hazards is to crawl around your apartment floor. Dog bowls, nails, wires, dust, and other small objects are some things that you may not even think about while standing upright, five or six feet above the ground. Babies have keen eyesight for small things up close. They'll inspect things you wouldn't even notice if you weren't looking for them. So, get down on the floor and remove anything you wouldn't want them putting in their mouths.

[Make Room for Baby: How to Prepare Your Small Apartment for a Little One](#)

## Step 2: Remove or cover sharp edges

Furniture with sharp corners and clumsy babies learning to stand or walk are not a good combination. You may want to exchange your square or rectangular coffee table with a round one or, better yet, just get rid of the coffee table so your baby has room to scoot about on the floor. If you can't part with furniture or sharp edges in your apartment are unavoidable, you can always buy safety guards to turn sharp corners into soft corners. They are not very stylish, but you may as well face it: If you have a child, your apartment is probably not going to look stylish for the next several years.

[Help Make Moving Easier for Your Kids](#)

## Step 3: Cover electrical outlets

Electrical outlets that are floor level should all have covers on them – unless they are being used, in which case they should be blocked from access to prevent your baby or toddler from playing with electrical plugs. Baby-safe outlet covers can be found on most online stores. One of the most popular outlet covers on the market is the sliding panel outlet cover. The cover automatically slides over the outlet when the plug is pulled out, protecting your baby from an exposed outlet.

[Teach Kids the Importance of Chores](#)

## Step 4: Rearrange houseplants

What kid doesn't love to play in the dirt? A potted plant is a perfect playground for babies and toddlers, so say goodbye to any houseplants that are on the floor or within reach to a small gardener prodigy. If the weather is warm enough, put them outside or find another location for them, such as hanging them from the ceiling.

[How to Decorate a Child's Bedroom](#)

## Step 5: Install baby locks for cabinets

Kitchens are the most dangerous place in the house – especially for babies. No baby should be roaming around on the kitchen floor unattended. Even if you're keeping a close watch on your child, it's wise to secure your bottom kitchen cabinets with baby-proof locks. Accidents happen so fast, and the last thing you want is for your child to get into cleaning chemicals under the sink or cut himself on a sharp appliance.

[Cheap Hobbies for Kids](#)

## Step 6: Keep bathroom doors closed

Does your dog drink out of the toilet bowl? What about your baby? Bathrooms are the second-most dangerous place (after kitchens) for a baby or toddler to explore. Medicine cabinets, showers, tubs, faucets, and chemicals are not baby-friendly. The best way to keep your baby safe from the bathroom is to get in the habit of closing the bathroom door – always. Aside from that, adding locking doorknobs and cabinet locks can help you gain peace of mind.

[How to Talk to Your Kids About Moving: Q&A](#)

## Step 7: Invest in a baby gate (or 2)

In areas that don't have a door, the best investment you can make is a baby gate. The safest baby gates are the plastic ones with solid panels. It's best to avoid ones with fancy bars, as babies can get their hands or heads stuck between the rails. Accordion-style baby gates are not even made anymore, but if you happen to come across one, don't even think about using it. They are very dangerous and can pinch or even strangle your baby.

[How to Make Moving Fun for the Whole Family](#)

## Step 8: Remove or hide anything fragile

Glass, fine china, crystal, ceramics and delicate artwork are some of the household materials in your apartment that may need to be placed out of baby's reach, or removed from the apartment altogether. You might need to say goodbye to tables with glass surfaces or decorative vases within a few feet of the floor. And perhaps a separate storage unit is worth the investment.

[How to Pack Up Valuables](#)

## Step 9: Secure your TV

Modern TVs are thinner, sleeker and lighter than ever before. They are also easier for babies to tip over or pull on top of themselves. Make sure your TV is either mounted securely to the wall or kept at a level just out of reach.

[How to Hang Your TV](#)

By putting yourself in the mind of a curious baby, you can get ahead of the game and create a baby-safe apartment before your child has a chance to get hurt or injured.

## Comments

0 comments

0 Comments

Sort by **Newest** ▾



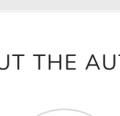
Add a comment...

Facebook Comments Plugin

Categories: Safety



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



**Apartment Guide Editorial Team**

The Apartment Guide Blog is your premier source for all things apartment related. From your initial search to your next move and everything in between, we've got you covered with all the tips, tricks and advice you're looking for. We also sprinkle in a little industry news like rental trends and city lists from time to time

if that's your thing.

## SUGGESTION BOX

Do you have an idea for a topic you'd like to learn more about?

[Send Us Your Pitch!](#)