

# Keep children safe from burns and scalds

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It's important that parents, relatives and carers are aware of the hazards which can lead to burns and scalds, and take steps to make sure children are kept safe.

## **Reduce the risk of accidents**

Accidents can happen quickly in or around the home, sometimes it takes just seconds, and occasionally these can lead to [burns and scalds](#).

But these accidents can easily be prevented by being aware of the dangers and hazards that are in the home, and taking steps to reduce the risks and make the home as safe as possible.

Hot appliances, liquids, and bath water are responsible for more than half of all burns and scalds, with young children being particularly vulnerable.

Be aware that:

- hot drinks can still scald 15 minutes after they've been made and can result in years of skin graft treatment – make sure hot drinks are out of reach of babies and children
- hot water scalds in seconds – run the cold water first and always check the temperature of bath water
- hair straighteners can get very hot very quickly and cause serious burns that scar for life – keep out of the reach of children and put them away safely after use

You can get more advice, including a video showing the dangers in the home, at this link:

Prevention is always better than a cure.

## **More useful links**

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