



How to avoid common accidents during your stay

Each year, accidents in the home result in around 2.7 million visits to accident and emergency departments each year in the UK¹.

At Airbnb, your safety is our priority. To help reduce the risk of accidents during your stay, we have partnered with the [Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents \(RoSPA\)](#) to raise awareness of some of the most common household accidents – and share tips on how to avoid them.

¹<https://www.rospace.com/home-safety/uk>



Trips and falls

- Never leave a baby alone on a raised surface, as they can move quickly and unexpectedly.
- Keep stairs well-lit and free of any clutter, like luggage or clothing.
- Always choose well-fitting shoes and slippers. Loose or badly worn footwear can cause a nasty fall.
- Keep active – improving your strength and balance will help your coordination.
- If you do fall, don't panic – you'll probably feel a little shocked and shaken, but try to stay calm and call for help if you need it. Don't forget to rest for a while before getting up.



Burns and fires

- Make sure you turn pan handles away from the front of the cooker and don't leave food cooking unattended. Always check that the hobs are switched off after use.
- Keep kettles and hot drinks away from the edge of the worktop and try not to carry hot liquids further than necessary.
- Keep curling tongs, hair straighteners, matches, lighters and candles out of reach of children.
- Watch children around hot radiators and near open fires, especially if there's no fire guard.
- When running a bath, always add the cold water first and mix it well to avoid hot spots.
- Please don't smoke inside your listing unless your Host has authorised it. This includes the use of tobacco, cannabis, e-cigarettes, etc. If you are staying in a property that allows smoking, make sure you safely dispose of cigarettes and matches, and never smoke in bed.



Choking

- Never leave a toddler or baby to feed alone. Cut small foods like grapes and cherry tomatoes into quarters to stop them choking. Keep choking hazards like small toys, sweets, nuts, and nappy sacks out of reach.
- Keep cots free of heavy quilts, pillows, cushions and cuddly toys.
- Window blind cords can also be a risk to babies, small children and vulnerable people. If this is a concern, contact your Host through Airbnb's secure messaging tool with any questions before booking to ensure that the sleeping arrangement is safe and that there aren't any blind cords, or anything else, dangling in or near the cot or bed.



Drowning

- Children can drown in a very small amount of water. Never leave children or babies alone in the bath, even for a moment.
- Always supervise children in paddling or swimming pools. Paddling pools should be emptied and stored away when you've finished using them – and hot tubs should be emptied or covered.

For more safety tips and in-depth advice, visit RoSPA's website:

www.rospa.com/home-safety/advice