



MSCoE SAFETY

Helpful TOY SAFETY TIPS

Maintaining

- × **Check all toys periodically for breakage and potential hazards.**
- × **A damaged or dangerous toy should be thrown away or repaired immediately.**
- × **Edges on wooden toys that might have become sharp or surfaces covered with splinters and need to be sanded smooth.**

Storing

Teach children to put their toys safely away on shelves or in a toy chest after playing to prevent trips and falls.

Toy boxes, too, should be checked for safety.

Use a toy chest that has a lid that will stay open in any position to which it is raised, and will not fall unexpectedly on a child.

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Sharp points

Toys which have been broken may have dangerous points or prongs.

Stuffed toys may have wires inside the toy which could cut or stab if exposed.

Outdoor Toys

- **Examine all outdoor toys regularly for rust or weak parts that could become hazardous.**
- **Rain or dew can rust or damage a variety of toys and toy parts creating hazards.**
- **Toys that are used outdoors need to be stored after play --**

Riding Toys

- **Riding toys (including unpowered scooters) are associated with more injuries than any other toy group**
- **– an estimated 71,500 in 2002.**
(Death may occur when a child is hit by a motor vehicle, or when a child rides the toy into a pool, pond or other body of water).
- **The majority of riding toy-related injuries occur when children fall from toys).**

Toy Safety After Buying

- ✘ **Look for warnings or other safety messages on toy packaging**
- ✘ **Read carefully all instructions included in and on the toy packaging**
- ✘ **Throw away all toy packaging such as plastic, cellophane and Styrofoam.**
- ✘ **Throw away broken toys that cannot be fixed**
- ✘ **Supervise children playing with balloons, throw away pieces of broken balloons**

CONT. Toy Safety after Buying

Make sure that large toy boxes have good ventilation and that the lid is lightweight and well supported

✕ Examine toys regularly for signs of wear and tear

Toy Safety Checklist

- ✘ **Use recommended age labeling as a guide**
- ✘ **Look for warnings or other safety messages on toy packaging**
- ✘ **Avoid toys with sharp points or edges**
- ✘ **Check rigid eyes and noses on soft toys; make sure they cannot be pulled off**
- ✘ **Examine wheels on toy cars to make sure they are secure**
- ✘ **Make sure small parts of larger toys cannot break off**

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