



# Holiday Safety Tips

The National Safety Council (NSC) offers the following safety tips from several agencies as we prepare to gather with family and friends:

- The [Consumer Products Safety Commission](#) (CPSC) recommends keeping poisonous plants, such as mistletoe and holly berries, away from young children.
- Make sure your artificial tree is “fire resistant” and kept 3 feet away from heat sources.
- Keep breakable ornaments and those with small parts out of reach of young children.
- Only use indoor lights inside and outdoor lights outside.
- Always [choose the right ladder](#) for hanging lights and performing other tasks.
- Turn off all lights and decorations when you go to bed or leave the house.
- Place candles where they cannot be knocked down and out of reach of children. Use flameless candles when possible.
- Use screens on fireplaces at all times when a fire is burning.
- Never leave candles or fireplaces burning unattended.
- Check and clean the chimney and fireplace area at least once a year
- NSC discourages the use of turkey fryers at home, except oil-less fryers. Follow the [U.S. Fire Administration turkey fryer guidelines](#).
- The [Foodsafety.gov](#) website from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services provides some valuable [holiday food safety tips](#).
- The CPSC recommends toys that do not have small parts for children under age 3 because of the risk of choking. Avoid toys that must be plugged into an electrical outlet for children under age 10.
- Include an appropriate helmet when gifting bikes or riding toys.

