



# Babyproof the Living Room

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## Anchoring Furniture and Securing TVs

- Secure heavy furniture:** Secure all heavy furniture to the wall, using a safety attach or screw them to the wall. The type of furniture with the potential from tipping over is the bookcases, dressers, and cabinets.
- Secure the TV:** In my experience, the TV will be a constant attraction for your baby. Therefore put your TVs or any other heavy items on a stable stand, install safety straps, and move them as close to the wall as possible. Also, it could be the time to update to a flat-screen TV that you could hang on the wall.
- Avoid furniture with glass doors:** Avoid furniture with glass doors. In my experience, kids can be hard on furniture. Anything with glass can shatter in pieces at any time.
- Install corner and edge bumpers:** Check for sharp edges and corners from your furniture or counter. Cover them with safety padding. Put yourself at your kid's height and check where he could fall or bump his head.
- Store away the TV remote:** Remote control could be mistaken for a toy, and it would be easy for a kid to open the battery compartment. Any kind of battery is dangerous. Baby can chock on them or get severe internal damage. If your kid swallows a battery, go to the ER right away.
- Keep furniture away from windows:** Reposition your furniture away from the windows, because your kid could use it to climb, reach for the window and fall. A window screen is useless when a baby pushes all his weight against it.

## Managing Living Room Hazards

- Place covers over unused electric outlets:** Install safety plugs or outlet covers on any unused outlets. The sliding covers are better because they can't be pulled out and

choked on.

**Hide electrical cords:** Make it challenging to reach electrical cords by hiding them behind your furniture. To be extra careful, secure them to the wall. A cable cover is the most secure way to hide your baby monitor cable.

**Secure the phone cord:** Your kid could get wrapped around it if it's too long or dangling. It would be best if you used this electric cord shorter.

**Install a fireplace gate:** Install a fireplace gate and cover it entirely. I think the metal screen is not right to keep your baby safe because it can get boiling.

**Store away firestarter:** Store away heavy logs, axe, and matches from your baby's reach.

**Store away the gas key:** Store away the gas keys of your fireplace.

**Install a carbon monoxide detector:** You should install a carbon monoxide detector on every house level. Like smoke detectors, they are a lifesaver, but you must replace the batteries twice a year. You can also check for a smoke detector that is a monoxide detector.

**Secure the cords from window-blind:** If you have horizontal blinds with cords, cut the cords off or use a safety tassel. These cords are a severe strangulation risk to children.

**Install window guards:** Don't rely on the window screen to protect your kid from falling off the window. Any windows accessible by your kid on the second floor or above should be shielded with window guards.

**Secure windows opening:** Another good way to secure windows is to limit the opening to a maximum of 4 inches.

**Remove poisonous plants:** Do some research on the different plant you have in your house to see if any is poisonous. Also, you should remove any cactus from your baby's reach.

**Store away the candles and matches:** Store away any candles and matches. It's likely for a kid to ignite a match accidentally. Many house fires are unexpectedly lit by children. Also, candles can be chewed on, and your baby can choke on the wax.

**Store away your purse:** Purses should always be kept out of your baby reach. Inform your visitors that you have a curious baby crawling around the house.

- Store away your piggy bank:** Store away your porcelain piggy bank. Your kid could think it's a toy and try to climb up the library or dresser to grab the bank. There are too many ways to go wrong, from falling to choking on coins.
- Install latches on doors and drawers:** Install safety latches on any cabinets, doors, and drawers. It will prevent pinch fingers from your little explorer.
- Secure shaky lamps:** Reposition any tall and unsteady lamps behind furniture. Or avoid floor lamps because they can be easily pulled down.
- Secure heavy wall hanging:** Any heavy wall hangings are a possible threat to your kid's safety. Even when they are well installed, your kid could knock them down. Also, be extra careful what you put on shelves because they could fall on their little head.
- Secure glass photo frames:** If you have photo frames with glass, make sure they are mounted safely to the wall. Kids can easily knock them down by accident. The shattered glass can be hazardous. Please put them where there's less traffic in the house or replace the glass with plexiglass.
- Store away the liquor and alcohol:** The alcohol can harm your baby. Also, most bottles are made of glass and are easily breakable.
- Gate floor heaters and radiators:** Install gates or block access to floor heaters and hot radiators. Baby can get burned or electrified while playing with it.



For more tips on how to keep your children safe at home, check out:

<https://www.watchfuldad.com/baby-proofing-checklist/>