

new safety seat recommendations

age group	type of seat	general guidelines
Infants/Toddlers	Infant seats and rear-facing convertible seats	All infants and toddlers should ride in a Rear-Facing Car Safety Seat until they are 2 years of age or until they reach the highest weight or height allowed by their car safety seat's manufacturer.
Toddlers/Preschoolers	Convertible seats and forward-facing seats with harnesses	All children 2 years or older, or those younger than 2 years who have outgrown the rear-facing weight or height limit for their car safety seat, should use a Forward-Facing Car Safety Seat with a harness for as long as possible, up to the highest weight or height allowed by their car safety seat's manufacturer.
School-aged children	Booster seats	All children whose weight or height is above the forward-facing limit for their car safety seat should use a Belt-Positioning Booster Seat until the vehicle seat belt fits properly, typically when they have reached 4 feet 9 inches in height and are between 8 and 12 years of age.
Older children	Seat belts	When children are old enough and large enough to use the vehicle seat belt alone, they should always use Lap and Shoulder Seat Belts for optimal protection. All children younger than 13 years should be restrained in the Rear Seats of vehicles for optimal protection.

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Charlie's House
The Home Safety Site



newsletter

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Charlie's House was named in honor of Charlie Horn, a 2 year old boy, who was killed in 2007 when a small dresser in his bedroom fell on him.

The mission of Charlie's House is to prevent injuries to children in and around the home. Within the next 12 to 24 months, we plan to open a safety demonstration house in Greater Kansas City where caregivers can experience firsthand how to safety-proof their homes. In the meantime, we will continue with our education and awareness initiatives to keep children safe.

charlie's safety showcase

Every day, Charlie's House is one step closer to building our Safety Demonstration Home. Very soon, we will have the opportunity to share a preview of what this eventual, one-of-a-kind facility will provide to parents and caregivers and we can't wait to get started!

Thanks to James Engle Custom Homes, we don't have to wait any longer. We are teaming up to achieve the mission of preventing accidents to children in and around the home.

To further their commitment to community, James Engle Custom Homes is generously allowing us to safety-proof one of their model homes that will be featured on the 2011 Fall Parade of Homes Tour. The home will remain a temporary safety showcase after the Parade of Homes concludes. What a great way to educate and protect our community before the permanent Charlie's House is built.

Mark your calendar and plan to visit Charlie's Safety Showcase throughout the Parade of Homes which runs from October 1 - 16. The model will be open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. After October 16, the model home will be open daily Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 12 noon to 5 p.m. The home is located at 11409 West 153rd Street in Overland Park, Kansas.

Some of the featured areas will include:

- Living Room:** fireplace, staircase, furniture and televisions, tripping and electrical hazards
- Kitchen:** stove and oven, burn prevention, cabinet locking devices, choking hazards
- Bathrooms:** door and toilet locks, medicine cabinets and toiletries, bathtub, water temperature
- Nursery:** crib standards and safe sleep practices, window blinds, changing table
- Garage:** tools, cleaning and gardening products, vehicle safety, gasoline storage

These areas will be outfitted with safety devices and tips that everyone can incorporate into their own homes.

Join us to learn about Charlie's House and how to make your house as safe as it can be!

As if all of this isn't enough, James Engle Custom Homes will be building a home in Bluestem that upon its sale, all proceeds will be donated to Charlie's House to help build our Safety Demonstration Home.

Please consider making a donation to Charlie's House to help us build a dream. For more details, visit charlieshouse.org.



Charlie's House Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.

be the difference for charlie's house

By now you probably know that the mission of Charlie's House is to prevent injuries to children in and around the home. You likely also know that Charlie's House hopes to achieve this goal by building a safety demonstration home in Kansas City where parents and caregivers can learn how to make their homes safer in a hands-on environment. What you may not realize is that Charlie's House relies solely on the charitable contributions of others to make this mission a reality.

Perhaps you are a parent yourself. Or maybe you have grandkids who steal your heart every day. For whatever reason, we know that you are one of the many who want to help – but you just can't make a million dollar gift. At least not right now anyway!

No matter what financial position you are in there are ways you can help Charlie's House achieve its mission. Gifts of any size make a real difference. This list shows five ways you can help:

- 1. Spread the Word.** You are reading this because you are already familiar with Charlie's House and have been supportive in the past. Now it's the time to spread the word to your friends and family. Visit our website (www.charlieshouse.org) and "like" us on Facebook. Give the gift of safety to new parents or grandparents. Let them know about Charlie's House, encourage them to visit our website and learn more about home safety.
- 2. Become a Charlie's Angel.** Charlie's Angels is the unique group of donors who have committed to supporting Charlie's House on an annual basis with a gift of \$100 or more. Benefits are given to Charlie's Angels based on the level of their contribution. For more information or to make a donation visit www.charlieshouse.org/how-to-help/charlies-angels.
- 3. Let Us Come to You.** Are you a member of a civic, social or church group who is looking for a speaker? A member of our Board of Directors is happy to come to your meeting to talk about Charlie's House. One of the most important things we can do is let people know about the resources available through Charlie's House. Help us spread the word. Please contact Maggie Collins at mcollins@charlieshouse.org to make arrangements for a speaker at your next meeting.

- 4. Start at Home.** Make your own home an example of safety by using the tools available at www.charlieshouse.org. You can download Charlie's Checklist as well as tour the Virtual House and get tips on how to make each room in your home safer. If you need help getting the right materials to safety-proof your house, please contact us at info@charlieshouse.org. We can help and often times supply the tools needed to make your home safer.
- 5. Get Creative.** It seems there is always something to celebrate – birthdays, new babies, weddings – you name it. Charlie's House is here to help you get creative with your gift giving. Honorarium gifts are always welcome. Instead of another receiving blanket, donate the cost in honor of the newborn. And at the next birthday party you can feel good knowing you've given a gift to Charlie's House in the birthday boy or girl's name. And no need to look any further for that perfect gift for the newlyweds – make a donation to Charlie's House on their behalf. All donations can be made online at www.charlieshouse.org or by mailing a check made payable to Charlie's House to 6324 N. Chatham Ave, #223, Kansas City, MO 64151.

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halloween safety

Keeping Kids Safe on Halloween

Halloween is an exciting holiday for children, but they can be vulnerable to injury on this night. To ensure trick-or-treaters stay safe, children should:

- Always trick-or-treat with an adult until at least age 10
- Only trick-or-treat in familiar areas that are well-lit
- Cross streets at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks
- Look left, right, and left again when crossing; always walk, don't run, when crossing streets
- Make eye contact with drivers and watch for cars that are turning or backing up
- Walk on sidewalks or paths; if there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible
- Never dart out into the street or cross in between parked cars
- Wear light-colored, flame-retardant costumes decorated with retro-reflective tape or stickers
- Carry a flashlight or glow stick to increase visibility to drivers
- Use face paint or make-up; a mask can restrict a child's vision



Driving Safely on Halloween

Drivers, do your part to keep trick-or-treaters safe from harm:

- Be especially alert in residential neighborhoods
- Drive more slowly and anticipate heavy pedestrian traffic on and near the road
- Be sure to drive with your full headlights on so you can spot children from greater distances
- Take extra time to actively look for kids at intersections, on medians and on curbs
- Remember that costumes can limit children's visibility and they may not be able to see your vehicle
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys slowly and carefully
- Remember that children are excited on this night and may move in unpredictable ways
- Popular trick-or-treating hours are during the typical rush-hour period, between 5:30 - 9 p.m.
- Reduce any distractions inside your car so you can concentrate on the road and pedestrians

car and driveway safety

Even if your car has parking sensors or a video camera installed, you may not notice a small child until it is too late to stop. In the time it takes for the driver to say goodbye and start the car, a child can move from a 'safe' position to the driveway and into the path of the vehicle.

Here are some basic driveway safety tips:

- Don't let your children use the driveway as a play area; create safe play areas for your children.
- Never leave your child unattended when they are in the front yard.
- Do not let your children play outside after dark.
- Use doors and blocks to block your driveway when your child is playing outside, and ensure your children are attended during this time.

- Teach your children the basic rules of never playing around or near a parked or moving vehicle.
- If you are home and need to move your car, and there is no other adult to attend to your children, secure your child in the vehicle with you as you move your car.
- Always walk around your parked vehicle before you put the key in the ignition.
- Create safe zones in your yard where your children can move to quickly when a vehicle is entering or exiting your driveway. A simple 'go to the safe zone' command will have your children acting quickly in the event of a moving vehicle.