

GUN

SAFETY

Tips from CHOP experts



CHILDREN ARE SAFEST IN A HOME WITHOUT A GUN.

If you have a gun in your home, keep children safe by following this advice:

- Store all guns unloaded, locked and out of sight.
- Store all bullets separately and keep them locked and out of sight.

There are many options to store your gun safely. Keep keys and combination codes hidden and secure.



Cable lock



Gun safe

TALK ABOUT GUN SAFETY WITH YOUR CHILDREN, FAMILY AND MEMBERS OF YOUR COMMUNITY.

- If your child sees a gun, tell them to not touch it, move away from the area and tell a grown-up immediately.
- Ask family members and friends about guns in their homes and how they keep their guns safe and out of reach before your child goes to visit.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Guns are the leading cause of injury-related deaths for kids ages 1–17 in the U.S.¹
- Playing with a gun is the most common cause of accidental gun deaths among children.²
- Three out of four kids ages 5–14 know where guns are kept in the home.³
- A 3-year-old is strong enough to pull the trigger of a handgun.⁴
- Most cases of childhood suicide involve a family member's unlocked gun.⁵
- Children may not know the difference between a toy gun and a real gun.

For more information on keeping kids safe around guns, please visit chop.edu/gun-violence-facts.

References:

¹Goldstick JE, Cunningham RM, Carter PM. Current Causes of Death in Children and Adolescents in the United States. *New England Journal of Medicine*. May 2022.

²Fowler KA, et al. Childhood Firearm Injuries in the United States. *Pediatrics*. 2017;140(1).

³bradycampaign.org/our-impact/campaigns/keep-kids-and-families-safe

⁴healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/at-home/Pages/Handguns-in-the-Home.aspx

⁵Youth suicide: Findings from a pilot for the National Violent Death Reporting System. *Suicide Prevention Resource Center & Harvard Injury Control Center*. 2007.

Watch a video on *How to Use Gun Locks and Lock Boxes* to keep children safe at home.



Get tips on how to ask about firearms and keep children safe when they're away from home.

