



Introduction

Everyone deserves to have a safe home, but that is not always the case. According to the Department of Health's statistics, domestic settings are one of the most common places where people sustain injury. Due to ignorance and negligence, domestic injuries happen from time to time. The purpose of this safety guide is to raise readers' awareness of the potential hazards of common household appliances, furniture, tableware, as well as other items, and to provide advice on their safe use. This guide collected advices from the Consumer Council, Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, Customs and Excise Department, the Coroner's Court and the Department of Health. Due to the limited space, only common items and their potential risks are described in this guide.

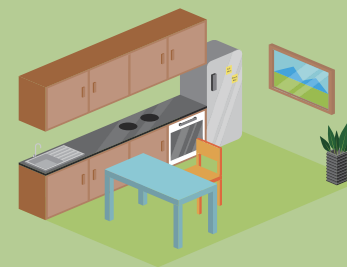
Promoting domestic safety awareness is a long-term educational work that requires the cooperation of families, schools, communities, and relevant Government Departments. Learning of basic domestic safety knowledge should start from families, with parents being role models for their children and teaching them. Teachers should also teach students general safety knowledge, including daily safety issues which can be easily overlooked. This guide will be updated from time to time. The Department of Health welcomes all suggestions that can make this guide more informative and useful.

This guide outlines general safety considerations for common household items, but it is also crucial that users should follow the instructions provided by product manuals to ensure proper use and maintenance.

Acknowledgements

We thank the Consumer Council, Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, Customs and Excise Department, and the Coroner's Court for providing statistics.

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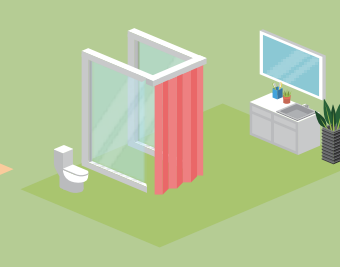
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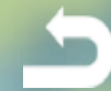


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Rice Cooker



- ◆ Do not touch the hot surfaces of rice cookers when they are in use, or keep your hands and face away from the steam vent on top to avoid burns. Some rice cookers are designed to emit less steam, reducing the risk of burns.
- ◆ Rice cookers have internal cords, do not wash or immerse them in water. To clean them, simply wipe the edges or the exterior with a damp cloth. After cleaning, wait until all parts are thoroughly dried before use.



Pressure Cooker



- ◆ Before use, make sure that the pressure-limiting valve is functioning properly and the rubber gaskets are not deformed.
- ◆ The amount of food you put in the cooker should not exceed the amount recommended in the manual. Make sure there is enough space in the cooker for steam to form, as this will prevent boiling food from clogging the valve. For food that easily expands when it is being cooked, such as beans or rice, reduce the amount slightly.
- ◆ After cooking, make sure to depressurise and confirm the cooker's pressure is completely released before opening the lid.
- ◆ Do not depressurise by venting when cooking foamy food (such as porridge and soup) or food that easily expands when cooked. Otherwise, the liquid may be expelled with steam, and the expanded food could clog the valve.
- ◆ Pressure cookers have internal cords, do not wash or immerse them in water. To clean them, simply wipe the edges or the exterior with a damp cloth. After cleaning, wait until all parts are thoroughly dried before use.



Induction Cooker



- ◆ Induction cookers use high input power and should not share a socket with other electrical appliances.
- ◆ Never put items such as cans, knives, or forks on the cooker plate.
- ◆ Induction cookers with touch controls are equipped with dual safety locks or require double starts. This means you must first press the power button and choose a heat level before it starts heating, in order to prevent accidentally starting the cooker.
- ◆ When finished cooking, do not turn off the power immediately. Some of the internal fans will continue to operate to cool the bottom and the plate of the cooker. Although induction cookers have internal fans to help with cooling, you should not touch the cooker surface immediately after removing the cookware, as it will still retain the heat from cooking.
- ◆ Use suitable cookware. Do not plug in or start the cooker without placing cookware on it. Do not put too much liquid in pots to avoid spills and burns when liquids boil over, which can also soak the induction cooker.
- ◆ Some induction cookers are equipped with a child safety lock (also known as a panel control lock), which prevents them from being accidentally turned on by children. The methods for activating or unlocking the safety lock vary across models. It is advised to read product manuals before use.
- ◆ Arrange inspections, maintenance, and repairs by experienced technicians regularly. Do not wait until problems arise.



Microwave Oven



- ◆ Microwave ovens require high electrical power and should not share a socket with other high-power electrical appliances or induction cookers with two heaters.
- ◆ Do not block the vents of microwave ovens, and make sure there is enough space for cooling as indicated in the product manual.
- ◆ Do not use metal containers, as these can cause sparks, leading to the microwave oven overheating and damaging it.
- ◆ Do not use sealed or tightly capped containers such as baby bottles. When heating up liquids, use wide-mouthed containers to allow bubbles to escape easily.
- ◆ Never cook eggs, whether with or without shell, in a microwave oven. As the egg is being heated, the temperature of the yolk will rise rapidly, causing pressure to build up and making the egg burst. This can result in injuries and leaving smudges on or damaging the microwave oven's top glass grill tube. You should also avoid heating up uncut potatoes or sweet potatoes with skins in microwave ovens.



Oven



- ◆ Small ovens use high electrical power and should not share a socket or extension unit with kitchen stoves and other high-power electrical appliances.
- ◆ Make sure there is enough space for cooling and keep the vent clear to prevent the oven from overheating. Never place it near curtains, plastic, paper, or other combustible objects.
- ◆ When cooking, do not touch the hot metal or glass surfaces. Never allow children to use or touch ovens when unsupervised.



Electric Steamer



- ◆ Before use, place the electric steamer on a sturdy and stable surface. Ensure the power cord is properly positioned to prevent it from being pulled and causing the steamer to tip over.
- ◆ Add water before plugging in the power cord. Make sure the water does not exceed the suggested limit to prevent boiling water from spilling.
- ◆ When placing food into the tray, make sure the holes at the bottom of the tray are clear so that the flow of steam is not blocked.
- ◆ Beware of the steam produced by electric steamer to avoid burns. Do not touch the hot surface of electric steamer when it is in use, and keep your hands and face away from the steam vent on top to avoid burns. To check whether food is done, use a dry cloth or oven gloves to slowly open the lid or tilt the lid outward to prevent steam from escaping and causing burns to user.
- ◆ To stir food, use long-handled cooking utensils to avoid being burned by steam.



Ceramic Knife



- ◆ Ceramic knives are light and sharp, and some are colourful that looking like toys. Keep them out of reach of children to prevent cut.
- ◆ Most ceramic knives should not be cleaned in dishwashers, as they may break if they come into contact with hard objects like plates and cutlery.



Hot Water Dispenser/ Electric Kettle



- ◆ When adding water, make sure the power plug stays dry to avoid electric shocks.
- ◆ Hot water dispensers/electric kettles use high electrical power and should not share an extension unit or socket with other high-power electrical appliances.
- ◆ Hot water dispensers/electric kettles with stainless steel, glass, or ceramic exteriors can become very hot when they are in use, and are heavier than those with plastic exteriors. Use them with extra care to avoid spills that could cause burns or scalds.
- ◆ To wait for the water to cool off, make sure the hot water dispenser/electric kettle is placed near a wall and out of children's reach. Coil the cords underneath the appliance to prevent it from being pulled by children, which can cause the appliance to tip over and cause burns.
- ◆ Hot water dispensers/electric kettles should be placed near a wall and out of children's reach to avoid burns.



Coffee Machine



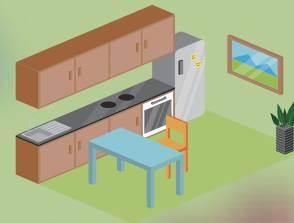
- ◆ When in use, basic manual espresso machines generate high pressure and hot water/steam. Make sure the coffee grounds container is securely installed and avoid hitting the handle to prevent the accidental escape of hot water or steam.
- ◆ If you accidentally knock off the filter, do not pick and put it back immediately. First, turn off the power and wait for the steam to dissipate and hot water to stop flowing and dripping. Then, carefully wipe away the hot water and wait for the coffee grounds container to cool off before making the coffee again.
- ◆ Do not touch the milk steamer after frothing milk, as it will remain hot for some time.



Blender



- ◆ Use the blender carefully to avoid cuts. They have sharp blades inside, so do not put your fingers inside them, especially when the blades are covered in food. It is best to pour out food and liquid first before dealing with them.



Melamine-ware



- ◆ Never use melamine-ware for heating up or cooking food. Neither should you use it in microwave ovens, traditional ovens, or over open flames.
- ◆ Do not put hot oil or acidic food on melamine-ware. If you need to use melamine-ware for hot fried food, wait for the food to cool slightly before placing it in the melamine-ware.



Food Container



- ◆ When placing or heating food in food containers, pay attention to the weight of the food and the thickness of the containers. Thin containers may become soft or deform when filled with foods like porridge or soup. Use them with care to avoid scalds.
- ◆ Heating food with high oil or sugar content in a microwave oven could cause the temperature to exceed the marked temperature limit. Pay attention to the power of the microwave oven and carefully set the heating time. It is safer to use microwave-safe glass or ceramic containers.
- ◆ If the lid of the container is not made of polypropylene, replace it with a microwave-safe lid or cling film before heating to prevent the food from splattering.
- ◆ If both the container and its lid are made of polypropylene, leave a small gap between them when heating. This will allow steam and hot air to escape, preventing pressure build-up. Nowadays, some microwave-safe food containers come with vents. Make sure to open them to allow steam to escape during heating.



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Bunk Bed



- ◆ It is recommended purchasing bunk beds that meet all the required specifications and carry recognised safety certification marks.
- ◆ When purchasing a bunk bed, ensure that the bed rail height and the spacing between the rail bars are appropriate to prevent falls and avoid stuck of user's head or limbs. Meanwhile, it is important that the bed has appropriate support and a bed board of suitable thickness to guarantee the user's safety.
- ◆ When purchasing a bunk bed, choose one with suitable weight support.
- ◆ To prevent children from falling off, do not let them sleep or move or play on the upper bunk of a bunk bed.



Manual Hydraulic Bed



- ◆ Do not operate a hydraulic bed alone. Make sure that no items are obstructing the mechanism and keep pets away when operating it.
- ◆ Hydraulic beds should only be operated by adults. Do not allow elders or children to operate them. Before operating, remove all heavy objects on the movable mattress base.
- ◆ After lifting the mattress base, make sure the gas spring is securely fixed, the hydraulic piston is functioning properly, and all screws used to secure the mechanism are tightened to prevent the mattress base from accidentally sliding or falling.
- ◆ For models without additional safety support, it is advised to place movable and sturdy furniture (such as chests and stable chairs) underneath the opening sides and in the middle to act as a buffer in case accidents occur.
- ◆ To lift the mattress base, make sure you use the correct posture, i.e. standing with your feet apart, bend your knees, and keep your back straight. Use both hands to lift the mattress base to avoid injuries.
- ◆ To close a hydraulic bed, tug the mattress and the mattress base down with your arms and body weight instead of relying solely on your wrists to avoid injury.



Baby Cot



- ◆ Baby cots should have bars and meet safety standards. When baby is sleeping in it, the cot should be closed.
- ◆ Baby cots should not be placed near windows, and no objects (such as piled clothes) should be placed around their edges. This prevents objects from injuring babies or covering their faces and suffocating them.
- ◆ Measure the space required for the baby cot first. When purchasing a baby cot, use a measuring tape to check its size as well as the spacing between the bars and any other gaps. Do not buy baby cots with gaps larger than 6 centimetres, as these can pose a risk trapping the baby's head.
- ◆ Check the expected service life and the recommended age range or maximum weight capacity of a baby cot. Some products on the market provide suggested ages as a reference for parents.
- ◆ Baby cots with adjustable mattress bases can be modified to suit an baby's growth stage. Check if the height of the cot's mattress base is adjustable and what the adjustment range is. For newborns who cannot stand, set the mattress base to the highest level so that parents can take care of them easily. Once the baby starts pulling themselves up, lower the mattress base—the lower it is, the safer the baby is—to prevent accidents where they may climb over the rails and fall off.
- ◆ Check if the baby cot has wheels and brakes. Some can be installed with wheels, making them easier to move around. It is important that this type of baby cot has brakes on its wheels. Be sure to check if the brakes are reliable.
- ◆ When lowering bed rails, make sure they do not pinch the baby's hands, feet, or other body parts. If the baby must be left in their cot unattended, make sure it is closed and locked. If the side rails are displaced, or components are loose, or other similar issues occur, remove the baby from the cot immediately. Do not continue using a defective cot and arrange for repairs to prevent injury.



Baby Pillow



- ◆ Bumpers attached to the inside of a baby cot, surrounding the entire interior, can help protect the baby's head. A bumper should have at least six ties. These ties should be placed out of the baby's reach and kept as short as possible to prevent any risk of strangulation.
- ◆ Never place fluffy toys, pillows, or objects that restrict the baby's sleeping space in a cot.
- ◆ The mattress should snugly fit the cot. A mattress being too large or too small can pose safety risks. It should also be firm and not too soft, and kept dry and clean.
- ◆ A quilt should also be secured with the mattress, and should not cover the baby's face or head. It is best for babies to sleep on their backs.
- ◆ If a baby monitor is required, it is recommended using wireless models. If a wired baby monitor is used, make sure the monitor and its cords are out of the baby's reach.



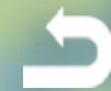
Mattress & Bed Sheet



- ◆ Do not smoke in bed.
- ◆ Do not leave candles or incense burners burning unattended.



Electric Blanket



- ◆ Do not fold electric blankets, as it may damage their internal heating wires.
- ◆ Keep sharp objects such as pins away from electric blankets to avoid damaging their internal wires, which can lead to electric shocks.
- ◆ Never use a damp electric blanket, as it may cause electric shocks.
- ◆ Do not drag the power cord of an electric blanket or place the power cord on a heated part of it.
- ◆ Regularly inspect the electric blanket for damage, overheating of electric blanket, scorch marks, and displacement of the internal heating wires. If the electric blanket is damaged, stop using it immediately and unplug it.
- ◆ For electric blanket that is not in use, unplug or turn off the independent switch on the extension unit for safety.



Hair Dryer



- ◆ Hair dryers require high electrical power, with some models rated over 2,000W. Avoid using hair dryers in bathrooms, as they may fall into the water or be exposed to steam, which can lead to electric shocks.
- ◆ Before using a hair dryer, dry your hands to reduce the risk of electric shocks.
- ◆ Do not use a hair dryer near flammable objects such as alcohol, paper, and bedding. Keep the air inlet free from foreign objects to avoid fires.
- ◆ When finished with it, unplug the hair dryer or turn off the switch on the extension cord for safety.
- ◆ Regularly inspect the power cord and the exterior of the hair dryer. If any deformations, power cord damage, scorch burns, sparks, or other unusual issues are discovered, stop using it immediately.



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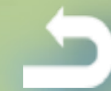
Folding Table



- ◆ When purchasing a folding table, choose one that is sturdy (for example, with all the screws on the legs tightened and no easily detachable parts) with high-quality safety locks. After unfolding a table, lock it immediately for safety.
- ◆ Read the relevant instructions first before unlocking a table.
- ◆ To unlock a table, make sure someone is supporting the tabletop, as it may suddenly fold, causing accidents.
- ◆ Teach children about the safety risks of folding tables. Never allow them to play with the table or crawl or hide among the table legs.
- ◆ Do not allow children to climb onto the tabletop or press too hard on either side of the table, as this may cause the table to flip over and lead to accidents.
- ◆ Children learning to crawl or walk may often try to climb or lean against furniture for balance. It is recommended placing folding tables near walls to prevent them from being knocked over by children, which may cause injury.



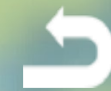
Glass Furniture



- ◆ Always purchase glass furniture labelled as tempered glass. Compared with normal glass of the same thickness, tempered glass (or toughened glass) is usually tougher, and able to withstand strong impacts and drastic temperature changes without breaking. Even if tempered glass breaks under strong impacts, its fragments are smaller and have smoother edges compared to normal glass, reducing the likelihood of deep body penetration and lowering the risk of injury.
- ◆ Before putting hot or cold objects on a glass table, use a table mat to prevent the glass from breaking due to sudden temperature change.
- ◆ The corners of square tables should not be too sharp, especially if children are present at home. To reduce safety risks, it is recommended using corner protectors on square tables.



Television



- ◆ Place televisions on flat and stable surfaces to prevent them from tipping over. To avoid accidents, it is recommended anchoring televisions to walls or television stands with a securing device.
- ◆ If a television is mounted on a wall, make sure the bracket is strong enough to support the television and follow the instructions provided by the product manual to install it. It is advised to employ a technician to carry out the installation.



Electric Fan



- ◆ Do not let children put their fingers or other objects inside the fan guards of electric fans, as this may lead to accidents.
- ◆ Fans should be placed on a stable surface to prevent them from tipping over and pulling the wires.
- ◆ Never put fans near windows, in bathrooms, or in any other places that have risks of water splashes, as this may cause electric shocks.
- ◆ Make sure there is enough space for fans to oscillate and cool off, and do not let anything cover the motor cover.
- ◆ Do not place fans near flammable objects or objects that can be easily pulled into the fan guard, such as curtains or paper.
- ◆ Do not leave a fan working unattended, as it may be difficult to notice unusual situations, such as the blades being obstructed by objects or failing to work due to accumulated dust. This may lead to the motor overheating or even catching fire.



Aquarium Electrical Equipment

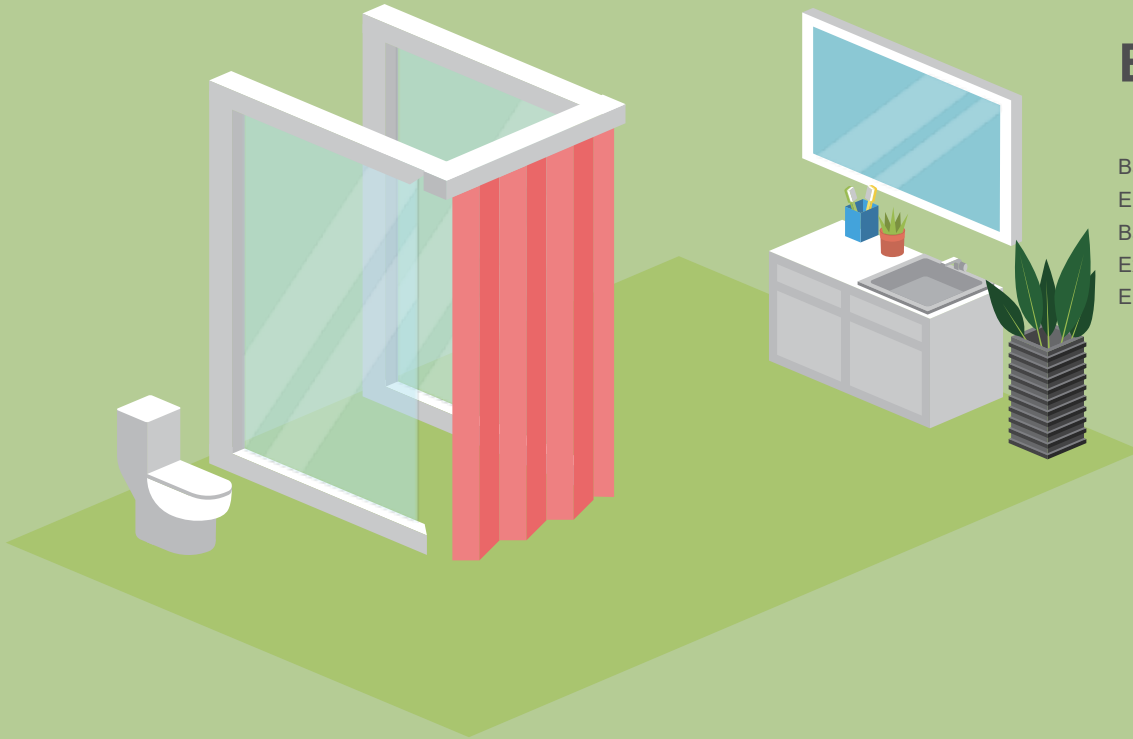


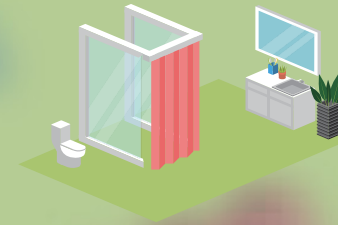
- ◆ Purchase aquarium electrical equipment that has detailed labels, a product manual, and a British-standard three-pin plug.
- ◆ Learn about aquarium design before installing aquarium electrical equipment, especially positioning requirements. Electrical equipment should only be installed in places where water cannot be accumulated to prevent the air pump and the aquarium lights from falling into the water.
- ◆ If aquarium electrical equipment falls into the water or is splashed, unplug the aquarium first before handling the equipment to avoid electric shock. Do not attempt to repair aquarium electrical equipment yourself, as this may affect its water resistance or other safety features.



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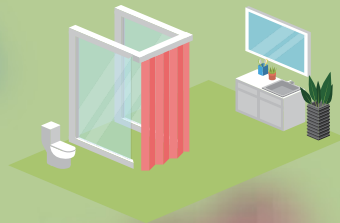




Bathtub



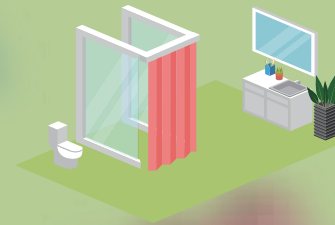
- ◆ Do not leave young children alone in a bathroom or a bathtub, as accidents may occur.
- ◆ It is advised to place a suitable anti-slip mat on the flat surface of a bathtub to reduce the risk of slipping. Regularly wash the anti-slip mat for safety. After using shower oils, skin becomes more slippery, increasing the risk of slipping. Parents should thoroughly dry their children with a towel, including the soles of their feet.
- ◆ When bathing a newborn baby, make sure their head and neck are well supported.
- ◆ To fill a bathtub or use a shower head, turn on the cold water first before changing it to hot water. Before bathing a baby in a bathtub, test the water temperature with your elbow or a thermometer first. Babies have delicate skin. Water that feels warm to adults may still cause burns to babies.
- ◆ Do not place electrical devices near the bathtub or water source. Do not place any plugged-in electrical devices that are not water-proof near appliances that can be filled with water, such as sink and bathtub. If the device falls into the water and is accidentally touched, it could lead to electric shocks.



Electric Water Heater



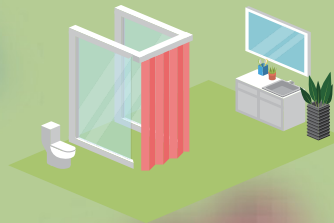
- ◆ Water outlet hoses of shower-type electric water heaters should remain unobstructed, and only shower heads without valves can be connected to them. Do not install valves on water outlet hoses or connect hoses to a sink or bathtub. Once the valve is switched off, the pressure cannot be released, causing the pressure in the water tank to build up, resulting in explosion. In view of the above reason, shower-type electric water heaters should be used with their original low-pressure cold and hot water valves to avoid accidents.
- ◆ When installing an electric water heater, employ a registered electrical contractor to ensure the water heater complies with Electricity (Wiring) Regulations set by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department.
- ◆ When using an electric water heater, if the circuit breaker trips, or steam comes out of the shower head or a water outlet hose with a pressure-reducing valve, turn off the power immediately and stop using it. Then, contact a registered electrical contractor to repair it.
- ◆ Arrange inspections, maintenance, and repairs by experienced technicians regularly. Do not wait until problems arise.



Bathroom Heater



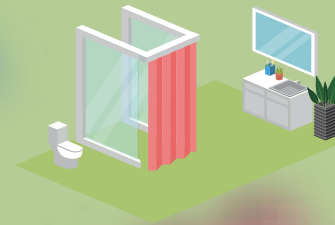
- ◆ To use a portable heater in the bathroom, make sure the socket that the heater uses complies with Electricity (Wiring) Regulations set by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department. It is also important that the rated current of the heater used in the bathroom does not exceed the capacity of the socket circuit (e.g. 13 amps).
- ◆ To use a fixed heater in a bathroom (no socket required), employ a registered electrical contractor to install it to ensure it complies with the Electricity (Wiring) Regulations set by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department. Normally, the circuits of old exhaust fans cannot be used directly to power the bathroom heater.
- ◆ Fixing a bathroom heater on the ceiling, window, or wall is better than using a portable heater in terms of wiring and usage. It takes up less space and can be positioned appropriately, whereas the area around bathroom socket(s) may not be suitable for placing a portable heater.
- ◆ Do not place flammable objects (such as magazines and clothes) near a bathroom heater in use.



Exhaust Fan



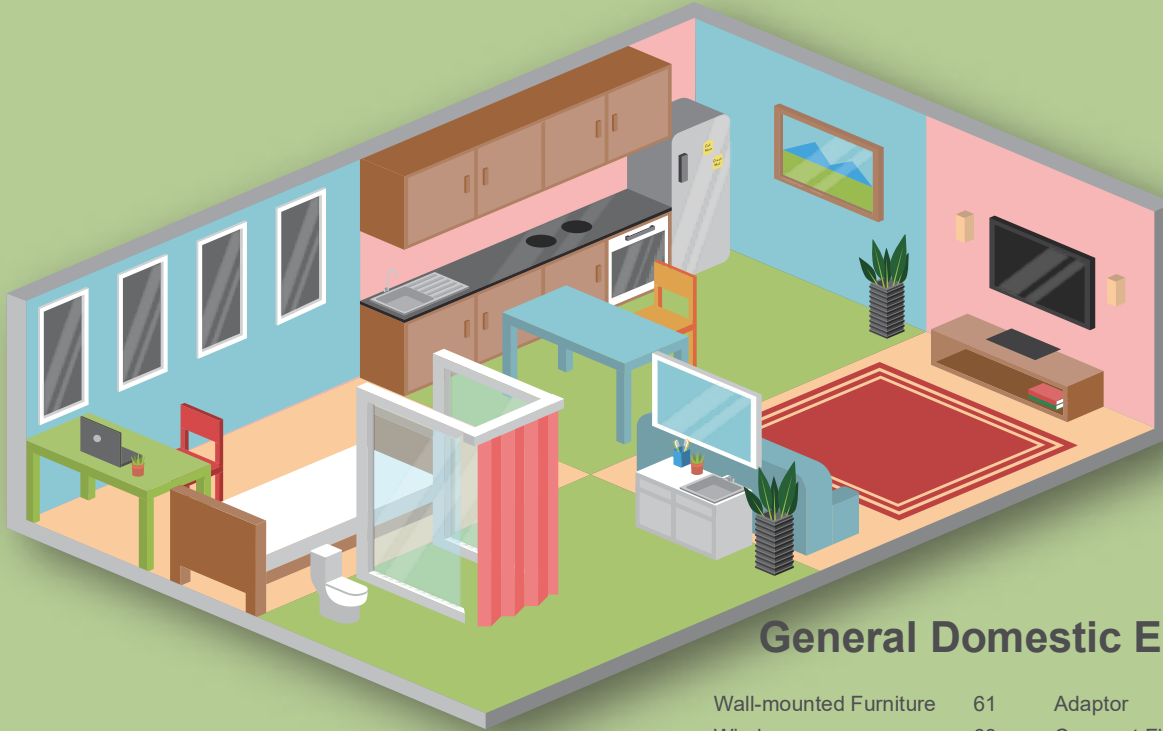
- ◆ Exhaust fan should be installed as high as possible to reduce the risk of injury from coming into contact with the spinning blades. If you can only install them in a reachable places, choose a model with blade guard.
- ◆ Keep light objects (such as paper, clothes, and curtain, etc.) away from the exhaust fan, as they can be drawn in or cover the fans, causing the fan to malfunction or overheat.
- ◆ Do not let children put their fingers or other objects into the exhaust fan. They can be injured by the spinning blades or cause the fans to malfunction.
- ◆ Employ a registered electrical contractor to install an exhaust fan to ensure the installation complies with the Electricity (Wiring) Regulations set by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department.



Electric Razor



- ◆ Do not use an electric razor for wet shaving when it is charging via power cords or transformers, as this may cause electric shock. Before use, read the product manual to learn how to use the electric razor.
- ◆ Do not rinse an electric razor which is not described as water-proof, as this may cause damage.

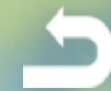


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Wall-mounted Furniture



- ◆ Wall cabinets should only be mounted on load-bearing walls or solid walls, such as concrete walls and brick walls. Walls made of air bricks, sand bricks, and light bricks may not be able to support wall-mounted cabinets and the objects inside them.
- ◆ Large cabinets or those with large weight capacities should be mounted with anchor bolts.
- ◆ Do not mount cabinets above sofas, beds, or other areas where family members often stay in, as this may cause accidents.
- ◆ Put metal kitchenware, heavy utensils, and other heavy objects in base cabinets instead of wall-mounted cabinets.
- ◆ Make sure the objects are evenly placed in a cabinet, instead of placing most of them on one side.
- ◆ Learn about the weight capacity of a wall-mounted cabinet before use and make sure the objects put inside do not exceed this limit. Overloading a cabinet may cause it to fall, resulting in accidents.
- ◆ Do not pull a wall-mounted cabinet or use it to climb on, as this will put extra weight on it.
- ◆ Inspect wall-mounted cabinets regularly. If you notice any tilting or gaps between cabinets and walls, quickly contact a technician to repair it for safety.



Window



- ◆ Do not place beds or furniture near windows, as children may climb onto the windows, leading to accidents.
- ◆ Windows should be installed with grilles that have appropriate spacing (according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), window grilles spacing should not exceed 10 centimetres, which is approximately 4 inches) to prevent children from getting their heads trapped. Always lock movable window grilles after use. It is worth the trouble to ensure safety.



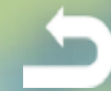
Curtain Cord



- ◆ Make sure the curtain cord is out of reach of children by trimming any excess length, storing them neatly in a cord winder, or hanging them on a wall hook. As advised by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, it is better to install cordless curtain or blinds at home with young children.
- ◆ Never let children play with nylon rope, cord, neckerchief, or silk scarf.
- ◆ Avoid placing furniture near windows to prevent children from coming into contact with the curtain. No rope or cord (e.g. curtain cord) should be placed near baby cots. Young children may play with them, resulting in fatal accidents.



Detergent



- ◆ Purchase bleach and detergents with child-resistance cap and be extra careful with them. Make sure the cap is tightly screwed after each use. If there are crystals inside the cap, wipe them away to prevent the safety cap from malfunctioning. Detergents including bleach should be stored in a cool, dry place and out of reach of children. To ensure safety, lock the cabinets where detergents are stored with a child safety lock.
- ◆ Mixing bleach with other detergents does not produce stronger cleaning effects. Mixing bleach with acidic detergents triggers a chemical reaction that instantly produces toxic chlorine gas. Inhaling the gas can cause discomfort, irritation to the nose, throat, and respiratory tract, and symptoms such as coughing, breathing difficulty, nausea, and vomiting. It can also lead to eye burning, tearing, and blurred vision. At high concentration, chlorine gas can severely damage lung tissue, leading to fatal accidents.
- ◆ Using hot water with detergent does not produce stronger cleaning effect or disinfection. If the water is too hot (exceeding 40°C), the sodium hypochlorite in bleach will break down, reducing its sterilisation effect. It is sufficient to dilute bleach with regular water (room temperature).
- ◆ When using glass detergents, keep flammable objects away for safety. Do not smoke or light incense products, and ensure proper ventilation.



Body Warmer



- ◆ For families with young children or elders, always put unused disposable body warmer out of reach. Avoid leaving a body warmer with open packet in random places, such as on a dining table.
- ◆ Do not tamper or play with disposable body warmer or open the body warmer intentionally. If you notice any leakage, stop using it immediately.
- ◆ Attach adhesive body warmer(s) to the inside of the coat instead of to the skin or inside underwear.



Nine-volt Battery



- ◆ The positive and negative terminal of nine-volt batteries (also known as square batteries) are close, store them with extra care. Avoid storing them with metal objects, as contact between the terminals and metal can cause a short circuit, generating heat and leading to fire. Some users may carelessly store batteries in luggage, handbag, or drawer along with small metal items, such as keys, metal pens, lighters, pins, binders, and coins, which can cause short circuits and lead to fire. It is best to have a plastic bag/case exclusively for batteries, or to seal the battery's terminals with tape before storing them in luggage, handbag, or drawer.





Button Cell



- ◆ Button cells are small, making them look like toys. Always keep them out of reach of children. If button cells are accidentally swallowed, go and seek immediate medical treatment from the Accident and Emergency Department. These cells can cause burns to interior organs within few hours and may even be fatal.



Extension Unit



- ◆ Never use any adaptor on an extension unit or plugging an extension unit into an adaptor.
- ◆ Make sure the total used power does not exceed 2,860W. If a three-pin plug of 13 amps is used to draw power, whether it is for a small extension unit with one or two sockets, or a large one with eight or nine sockets, the total used power should not exceed 13 amps (A)*220 volts (V) = 2,860 watts (W). For example, if all nine sockets are used for electronic devices of low electrical power averaging 200W each, the total power consumption would be around 1,800W, leaving a balance of 1,000W. However, if one of the sockets is used for a 2,000W electric kettle, iron, or electric heater, only about 800W remains available.
- ◆ Avoid using an extension unit with irregular socket holes, as bad connection may occur. Only purchase extension units that comply with safety standards (BS 1363).
- ◆ Never use extension units in damp places (e.g. bathroom) or near water.
- ◆ If you notice any damage to the extension unit, stop using it immediately. Either replace it or employ an experienced technician to repair it.



Socket



- ◆ Make sure that all sockets have safety shutters inside.
- ◆ Parents should teach children about the safety risks of sockets and never let them touch the socket or opening safety shutters with other objects.
- ◆ Employ a registered contractor to install sockets to ensure they comply with the Electricity (Wiring) Regulations set by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department.



Adaptor



- ◆ Do not purchase or use adaptors or extension units with irregular socket holes. Each face of an adaptor should only accommodate one type of plug.
- ◆ Never use an extension unit on an adaptor or plugging adaptor(s) into an extension unit.



Compact Fluorescent Lamp



- ◆ Do not touch a compact fluorescent lamp that has been turned on for a long time, as this may cause burns.
- ◆ Compared to incandescent light bulbs, compact fluorescent lamps are larger and heavier. Before use, learn about the weight capacity of light fitting in case it cannot support the weight of the compact fluorescent lamps, especially fitting with multiple bulbs.



Iron



- ◆ Place the heated iron on a flat surface when not ironing clothes.
- ◆ Always unplug an iron before adding in water.
- ◆ After finished using the iron, place it on a flat surface out of reach of children for it to cool off.



Hoover



- ◆ Hoovers usually have strong suction power. Never let children play with them or put the hose, nozzle, or suction head near the head, especially the eyes and ears.
- ◆ Avoid sucking hot or burning objects such as ashes or cigarette butts with hoovers. Apart from special models, hoovers should not be used to suck water.



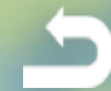
Steam Cleaner



- ◆ It is recommended using independent earthed socket for such electrical appliance with high electrical power consumption to prevent electric shock. It is also important to follow the installation and usage instruction provided in the product manual.
- ◆ Before using steam cleaners, read the product manual and follow the instruction. Do not touch the steam nozzle, water tank, and hose connector of the steam cleaner as they can be hot.



Dehumidifier



- ◆ Dehumidifier requires high electrical power and should not share a fixed socket with other electrical appliances, as this could overload the socket.
- ◆ Place the dehumidifier on flat and stable surfaces before use and make sure there is enough space for cooling. Keep the air vents clear to prevent the appliance from overheating.
- ◆ Never place the dehumidifier in bathroom or under clothes that are dripping water.
- ◆ Do not let a dehumidifier running for a long time, as it may overheat and pose a risk of accidents.
- ◆ Clean the air vents of dehumidifiers regularly to prevent dust from affecting cooling and insulation.



Electric Heater



- ◆ Electric heaters usually require high electrical power (2,500W or more) and should not share a power source with other high-power electrical appliances. To use a fixed electric heater (no socket required), employ a registered electrical contractor to install it to ensure it complies with the Electricity (Wiring) Regulations set by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department.
- ◆ Oil-filled electric heaters are heavy. They may fall over if you over-tilt them, posing a risk of accidents to nearby children. The heating elements of the heaters can become very hot and is not visible from the outside. Be careful and never touch them, as they may cause burns.
- ◆ Apart from special models, avoid drying clothes with an electric heater to reduce the risk of fire.
- ◆ If you notice any unusual issues with the heater such as overheating or oil leakage, stop using it immediately and employ an experienced technician to repair it.



Washing Machine



- ◆ Parents should teach children about the safety risks of the washing machine. Children should know not to open the machine door to watch out of curiosity or put their hands inside the washing machine. Neither should they use a washing machine as a hiding spot for games.
- ◆ When finished with a washing machine, make sure all the water is drained. Never store water or immerse clothes in it. Make sure the door or cover of the washing machine is closed after use.
- ◆ Avoid placing chairs or boxes near a washing machine, as children may use them to climb on top.
- ◆ Do not leave children alone near a washing machine. Simply having adults at home is not enough to ensure safety. Always be cautious with young children.
- ◆ Do not use flammable or chemical objects such as insecticide and thinner near the washing machine in use.



Tumble Dryer



- ◆ Do not put clothes and items containing sponge, latex, rubber, or wax, or those stained with oil or dry cleaning fluid in the tumble dryer, as they could melt, catch fire, or even release toxic gases when heated.
- ◆ Avoid placing chairs or boxes near the tumble dryer, as children may use them to climb on top.
- ◆ Always close the door and unplug the tumble dryer after use to prevent young children or pets from climbing into them.
- ◆ Do not leave children unattended near the tumble dryer. Parents should teach children about the safety risks of the tumble dryer. Children should know not to open the dryer door to watch out of curiosity or put their hands in the tumble dryer. Neither should they use the tumble dryer as a hiding spot for games.
- ◆ Do not use flammable or chemical objects such as insecticide and thinner near the tumble dryer in use.
- ◆ Keep the vents of the tumble dryer clear. Before use, make sure the filter is properly cleaned. Regularly inspect the vent and duct of the tumble dryer, and remove the accumulated lint. Excessive lint accumulated in the filter or duct affects the airflow inside the tumble dryer. In severe case, it may cause the dryer to overheat and ignite the lint.



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