

HAZARD



SUGGESTION/
ACTION

EXTERIOR

Ramps and outside steps exceeding two steps shall have a well-secured handrail			
A ramp is available if needed and in good condition			
Each porch that has over an 18-inch drop should have a well-secured railing			
Sidewalks and steps are free of debris and snow			
All poisonous substances are out of reach or locked up			
Windows, including windows in doors, should be securely screened when windows or doors are open			
All screens, windows and doors should be in good repair			
Windows and doors should have operable locks			
All pools should be fenced with a gate that is locked when the pool is not in use			

OTHER

Smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors are present and in working order			
Detectors are checked monthly			
Canes, walkers, wheelchairs and other assistive devices are in good condition and fit to the person using the device			
Water temperature is 120 degrees Fahrenheit or less to prevent scalding			

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Medications are stored in a safe place and according to instructions on the label of the package or container			
Medications should be locked up or kept out of reach			
All poisonous materials should be stored in their original containers			
A first aid kit should be stocked and available along with a first aid manual			

SIMPLE SAFETY REMINDERS

- Always turn on lights before going into a room
- Replace any burned-out bulbs immediately
- Night-lights are invaluable in contributing to visibility at night
- Avoid throw rugs
- Don't take shortcuts off established walkways; they can be dangerous
- Be alert to pets and children who can move quickly and unexpectedly
- Clean up all spills immediately
- Use handrails when available
- Wear footwear with good support and traction
- Avoid wearing socks, smooth-soled shoes, or slippers on stairs, wood, or waxed floors
- Have vision and hearing checked regularly
- Make sure clutter does not block common traffic areas in the home
- Caution should be taken when visitors bring in bags or purses that may contain medication or poisons

Disclaimer: This safety checklist is a general checklist; please follow agency guidelines and regulations. These safety checks do not cover all potential problems. A person who has special needs may require other safety features in the bathroom, kitchen, or bedroom etc. Further evaluation may also need to be completed by an occupational or physical therapist.

Home Safety Checklist



Community Health Connections
The Bantam Commons
120 Hollywood Dr., Suite 201
Butler, PA 16001



(724) 283-0990
www.hcqu.org

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SUGGESTION/
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INTERIOR

Entrance/Stairs			
All entrances and stairways are adequately lighted			
Light switches are located at the top and bottom of stairways			
Steps (indoor and outdoor) have a non-skid surface			
Steps are in good repair and are even to allow sure footing			
Items are not stored on steps/ even temporarily			

FLOORS

Small rugs are tacked down or slip-resistant			
Carpeting and rugs are not worn or torn			
Flooring (rugs, tile, boards) are in good repair			
Cords are not stretched across pathways or under rugs			
Exits, halls, and pathways are kept clear			

LIGHTING

Exits, halls, and pathways are well lit			
Lights can be turned on before going through a dark area			
A working flashlight is available in case of a power outage			
There is a light or light switch within reach of the bed			
Nightlights are used where needed (hallways, bedroom, bathroom)			
There are no exposed, glaring bulbs in lamps or fixtures			

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Light bulbs are the appropriate size and type for the lamp or fixture			
All lighting fixtures have bulbs in every socket			

LIVING ROOM

Lamps and cords are clean and in good condition			
Chairs and sofas are sturdy and secure			
Chairs and sofas are not too low or too deep to get in and out of easily			

KITCHEN

Everyday dishes and foods are placed on lower shelves in easy to reach locations			
A step stool with a hand rail is available to reach high shelves			
Cleaners and other poisonous substances are out of reach or locked up			
A home that is not connected to a public water system should have a coliform water test by a Department of Environmental Resources' certified laboratory stating that the water is safe for drinking purposes at least every 3 months			

BATHROOM

Bathtubs and showers are equipped with non-skid rubber mats or surfaces			
Bathtub and shower has at least one grab bar			
A shower chair is available if needed			

Hazard

Suggestion/
Action

Raised toilet chair used if needed for height and stability			
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BEDROOM

Bed is the proper height			
Pathways are kept clear			
If possible keep a flashlight within reach of the bed with spare batteries nearby			
Adequate lighting on pathway from bedroom to bathroom			

PHONE

There is a working phone available in case of an emergency			
Telephone numbers of the nearest hospital, police department, fire department, ambulance and poison control center should be on or by each telephone in the home			
Address and phone number of home is posted on each phone			

ELECTRICAL

Outlets are available in every room			
All electrical boxes are up to code			
Cords are not frayed or cracked			
Extension cords do not carry more than their proper load as indicated on the cord or appliance			
Cords are not attached to the walls or baseboards with nails or staples			
Small electrical appliances, such as hair dryers, curling iron, toasters, etc., are unplugged when not in use			