

# Prevent Poisoning from Cleaning Products

Cleaning is an important way to reduce germs. However, many young children have been poisoned by products that are meant to kill germs. Swallowing even tiny amounts of these products can poison children. Poisoning may cause confusion, vomiting, sleepiness, seizures, trouble breathing, and even death. Follow the tips below to keep children safe.

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## Act Fast

Contact Poison Control if you think a child has swallowed or touched something that might harm them.

**Call: 800-222-1222 (toll-free)**

**Visit: [www.poison.org](http://www.poison.org)**

Poison Control speaks many languages. They can tell you what to do. These services are available any time.

**Call 911 if a child has collapsed or is not breathing.**

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## Be Prepared

Save the phone number for Poison Control in your phone. Post it near every phone in your home.

Learn how to prevent poisoning at **[www.poison.org](http://www.poison.org)**.



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## Keep Out of Reach

Keep products in their original containers. This includes laundry and dishwashing detergent, hand sanitizers, and cleaning products. Store them where children cannot reach them. If you store small bottles of hand sanitizer in purses, diaper bags, or cars, keep them away from children.



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## Read the Label

Follow directions on the bottle when you use cleaning products. When using certain products, you may need to wear gloves or open a window. Some products should never be mixed with other products.

Some hand sanitizers are not safe. Make sure your hand sanitizer does not contain an ingredient called methanol. Check the [list of hand sanitizers you should not use](#) to find out if yours is safe. Hand sanitizer should not be used on babies or toddlers under age 2. Soap and water work best for washing hands.



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Health, Behavioral Health, and Safety

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