



Safety Tips for Home Playground Equipment

- Watch young children using playground equipment to prevent shoving, pushing, or fighting.
- The surface under playground equipment should be energy absorbent, such as rubber, sand, sawdust (12 inches deep), wood chips, or bark. Existing concrete, cement, or wood should be covered with these materials.
- Swing seats should be made of something soft, not wood or metal.
- Children should not twist swings, swing empty seats, or walk in front of moving swings.
- Put home playground equipment together correctly. It should sit on a level surface and be anchored firmly to the ground.
- Cap all screws and bolts. Check periodically for loose nuts and bolts and broken, rusty, or sharp parts.
- Do not buy equipment with “S” hooks, sharp edges, or 5- to 10-inch rings. A child’s head may get caught in rings that size.
- Install playground equipment at least 6 feet from fences or walls.
- Check for hot metal surfaces on equipment such as those on slides, which could cause burns.

From Your Doctor

The information in this publication should not be used as a substitute for the medical care and advice of your pediatrician. There may be variations in treatment that your pediatrician may recommend based on the individual facts and circumstances.

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