

Your 1 to 2 year old



Safe kids at every stage

1 to 2  
years

Toddlers' understanding of the world around them is increasing but is limited to what they can **see and hear at the moment**.

Your child cannot understand when they are in danger of being injured. Your child may not remember warnings that they have been told. Even if your child does remember safety rules, they may not follow them.



In Canada, preventable injuries are the #1 cause of death for young children.

Every day in Canada, 16 children aged 0-4 are hospitalized because of an injury.\*

The good news is that injuries are preventable. With the help of a few strategies, you can help to keep your toddler safe from the devastating effects of injury.



Toddlers often like to **climb**.

Children have been seriously injured falling from things they have climbed on in the home, like furniture, TV stands and bookcases.

You can help to protect your child from falls by altering furniture such as securing drawers or attaching bookcases to the wall.



Toddlers do not understand the idea of **height**.

Falls from windows in homes and apartments have caused serious injuries and even death. Window screens do not prevent falls. The weight of a child can easily knock out the screen.

Protect your toddler by installing window guards and stops and keeping furniture away from windows.

As they grow, toddlers begin to **explore** places that used to be out of reach. They quickly learn how to **open** doors and bottles.

Medication is the most common cause of poisoning for young children. Poisoning can occur from prescription and non-prescription medication – even vitamins.

Keep all medication out of their reach, locked and in the original child-resistant packaging.

1 to 2 years

Toddlers are **small** and their internal organs are still developing.

Car seats can save your toddler's life if they are used properly. Serious injuries to their spine and internal organs have occurred to toddlers who were not secured by a proper fitting car seat.

To find out how to use your car seat correctly always read the instruction manual for your car seat and the section on "child restraints" in your vehicle owner's manual. If you still have questions, contact Safe Kids Canada or your local public health department.

Your child may know **water safety rules** but may not follow them.

Drowning happens quickly and quietly. Young children have drowned in as little as 2.5 cm (1 in.) of water, in a matter of seconds.

Stay within sight and reach of your child when they are near open water at rivers, lakes and ponds.

Put toddlers in lifejackets when they are in, on or around water.

Backyard pools are a particular risk. To protect your child, install a 1.2 m (4 ft.) high, four-sided fence with a self-closing, self-latching gate around your home pool.

Young children often interact with **objects in unexpected ways**, which can put them at risk.

Becoming entangled in window blind cords has caused severe injury and death to young children.

To protect your child from strangulation, keep all cords out of reach or use cordless window coverings.



Young children like to **imitate** those around them. They can quickly **grab a hot drink** pretending they are just like you.

Young children's skin is much thinner than adults' skin and burns more quickly and deeply.

Hot liquids, such as tea, coffee, soup, and hot tap water, all have caused serious burns for children.

Lower the hot water temperature so the hot tap water in your home is 49°C (120°F).

It only takes a **moment** for your toddler to get into something that can cause **serious** injury.

For more safety information, visit [parachutecanada.org](http://parachutecanada.org)