A Parent's Guide to Home Firearm Safety

Children have easy access to firearms.

- 1 in 3 U.S. homes with children under 18 have a firearm. (1)
- 45% of those homes have an unlocked firearm. (1)
- 3 in 4 children ages 5 to 14 know where firearms are kept in their home.
- 1 in 5 report handling a firearm in the home without their parents' knowledge. (2)

Easy access to firearms can lead to tragic consequences.

- Over 19,000 children and teens (0-19) are killed or injured by firearms each year. (3)
- In 2020, firearms became the leading cause of death in the U.S. for children and adolescents, surpassing car crashes.
- 1 in every 5 children who died in 2021 were killed by a firearm. (6)

In 2021,

- 60% of firearm-related deaths in children and teens ages 0-18 were homicides. (7)
- The rate of firearm suicide among children and teens has increased 53% over the past decade. (3)

Children as young as 3 years old are strong enough to fire a handgun. (5)
What's the solution?

Is there a gun where my child plays?

If the answer is:

YES

If you answer "YES", make sure all guns are stored, unloaded, and locked with no access to keys, ideally in a gun safe, with ammunition locked separately.

NO

If you answer "NO", then you have one less thing to worry about.

If there are any doubts about the safety of another home, invite the kids to your house instead.

What are the safe storage options?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is it called?</th>
<th>What does it look like?</th>
<th>Where can I buy it?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cable Lock</td>
<td>Do not install around the trigger.</td>
<td>Amazon.com $9.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trigger Lock</td>
<td>Do not use on a loaded gun.</td>
<td>Amazon.com $11.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lock Box</td>
<td>Store ammunition separately.</td>
<td>Amazon.com $49.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gun Safe</td>
<td>Store ammunition separately.</td>
<td>Amazon.com $109.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take Apart Firearm</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Developed by the University of Michigan Institute for Firearm Injury Prevention. Our thanks to ASK and CSN for information shared here.