

HOME alone SAFETY

NEXT STEPS

Congratulations to your child for completing the Home Alone Safety for Kids tutorial online. Here are some key highlights from the program. Review and complete these next steps together with your family to prepare your child for staying home alone.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Complete the contact information sheet found in the resource section of the program and ensure that your child knows his/her full name, address and home phone number. If your family does not have a landline, include the best number to contact a parent or guardian.

THE SIGNED AGREEMENT

Print the Signed Agreement in the resource section and discuss rules, routines and expectations with your child. Both you and your child should sign this agreement so that you are both on the same page.

INJURY PREVENTION

Tour your home together and talk about potential hazards. Eliminate risk in high-hazard areas by making them an OFF-LIMIT zone.

TRUSTED NEIGHBOR

Choose a trusted neighbor, friend or family member who lives nearby to be your child's back-up person. Talk to your back-up person before your child stays home alone and discuss how they can help.

FIRE SAFETY

Create a fire safety plan and practice it with your whole family. Adults should check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors once a month. Have your child listen to the sound of your detectors so that they are familiar with the sound of alarm.

FOOD SAFETY

Discuss safe snacking options with your child. Snacks should be easy to prepare or prepared in advance. Children should avoid the use of knives or any appliances that create heat when home alone.

CHILD'S READINESS

A child should never be forced to stay home alone if unwilling or feeling anxious about doing so.

Follow the laws and recommended guidelines regarding the minimum age for children to stay home alone in your area. Check with your local Children's Aid Society and Children's Protection Services. Never leave a child who is not ready or willing to stay home alone.