

Home Safety Survey

Date: _____ Resident: _____ Assessment by: _____

This Home Safety Survey is designed to look for hazards in and around the house so they can be fixed before they cause problems. Home safety problems could lead to unintentional injuries from falls, burns, or poisoning. Falls can be a major problem for an elder. Falling can result in serious injury or loss of independence. This survey can be done by a CHA/P, CHR, or a family member.

	YES	NO
Home Entrance		
Steps and walkways in good repair; no broken edges or boards or other hazard		
Secure ramp installed if resident uses a wheelchair or finds stairs difficult		
Exterior stairs and landing are slippery when wet		
Area on roof for ice/snow to accumulate and slide onto landing, stairs, or ramp		
Secure, sturdy railing on both sides that is easy to grasp with both hands		
Lights that light up a wide area of the yard and walkway		
Lock that does not need a key to open from inside (unless wandering is an issue)		
Mat, carpeting or textured floor in entryway to prevent slipping when wet		
Seat available for putting on and removing ice grippers or cleats		
Living Areas		
Doorways wide enough to use a walker, a wheelchair, or if carrying a load		
Open pathways with no small furniture, clutter, or "stuff"		
Throw rugs or mats		
Thresholds between rooms/floor textures are smooth with visible color contrast		
Electric phone cords running under rugs or carpeting or across open areas		
Frayed electric cords		
Electric outlets and switches overloaded (warm to the touch)		
Lights can be turned on without walking across a dark room		
Sofas and chairs high and firm enough for easy sitting and rising		
Castors and wheels on furniture		
2 working smoke detectors on every floor		
Working carbon monoxide detector in the house		
Easy access to telephone in every room		
Bedroom		
Throw rugs or mats		
Floor free from clutter		
Castors or rolling furniture		
Bed lower than back-of-knees height		
Chair with armrests and firm seat to reduce falls while dressing		
Night light of sufficient brightness (check brightness level for each resident)		
Light can be turned on without walking across a dark room (accessible from bed)		
Pathway from bed to bathroom is free of obstacles (clutter, furniture, etc.)		
Telephone is within easy reach of the bed		

	YES	NO
Bathroom		
Throw rugs or mats		
Non-skid floor surface in tub/shower		
Water temperature below scalding (below 120 degrees F)		
Glass shower doors		
Strong grab bars in shower/bath and near toilet		
Shower bench or seat with hand-held shower wand available		
Raised toilet seat if balance is a problem		
Night light of sufficient brightness (check brightness level for each resident)		
Light can be turned on without walking across a dark room		
Kitchen		
Doorways wide enough to use a walker, a wheelchair, or if carrying a load		
Floor waxed or slippery		
Throw rugs or mats		
Sturdy stepstool available for hard-to-reach items		
Most-often-used items stored between eye and knee level		
Cluttered work space near cooking areas		
Cleaning products are stored safely and separate from foods		
Working smoke detector		
Fire extinguisher easy to reach and use		
Things that can burn (flammables) near heat sources (stove, heater)		
Interior stairways		
Secure railing on both sides that is easy to grasp with both hands		
Open stairway with no shoes, books or other "stuff" cluttering them		
Steps are even with no crumbling edges, broken boards, or loose/torn carpet		
Light switches at the top and bottom of the stairs		
Adequate lighting the entire length of the stairway		

- » If any of the shaded boxes were checked, the elder may need help making the home safe.
- » Discuss these needs with the elder, family, your supervisor or regional elder program.

Other comments or concerns:
