

# Checking-In Safety Checklist

## *for travel with babies & toddlers*

Print a copy to keep in your suitcase or diaper bag to have on arrival at your destination.

### \_\_\_ Door locks

Can you latch the main door to ensure your child won't go sightseeing without you? Does the bathroom or any other room have locks within your child's reach?

### \_\_\_ Low and/or Large Windows

Are the windows low enough for the child to run into, or climb out of, or access by climbing on other furniture in the room? Do they open wide enough that toys—or a child—might fall through (remember, screens will not stop children from falling)? Can they be locked shut so your child cannot open it? Is there a “protective” rail or grillwork outside the window that might tempt the child?

### \_\_\_ Patio Doors

Can your child unlatch or operate the door unassisted? Is the glass so wide it is a walk-through risk? Is the glass so thin or old it might break if bumped by a toy or gallivanting child?

### \_\_\_ Balconies or Decks

Are the railings close enough to keep curious children and babies from slipping under or through? Even more-modern hotel buildings may still have railings spaced too widely for small children and babies (remember they're much narrower turned sideways), so be sure to inspect for yourself before your child comes exploring. Are there steps to the deck or down from the balcony? Any outdoor furniture that could give your child “a lift” too close to danger?

### \_\_\_ Curtains, Blinds, and Window Treatments

Give draperies a friendly tug before your child does to ensure they're securely anchored. Get loose operating cords, delicate drapes, and unsafe window treatments up and out of the way, bundled with a rubber band if needed.

More helpful tips and resources at [TravelswithBaby.com](http://TravelswithBaby.com) and in the award-winning book  
*Travels with Baby: The Ultimate Guide for Planning Travel with Your Baby, Toddler and Preschooler*  
by Shelly Rivoli

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## \_\_\_ **Heating / AC**

Is the heating or AC unit accessible to your child? Could it be dangerously hot or pose a risk from the operating fan? Are the controls within his reach?

## \_\_\_ **Electrical Appliances, Outlets, and Cords**

Watch out for coffeemakers, alarm clocks, and hairdryers that may be pulled off of surfaces by curious toddlers, either by their cords or the objects themselves. Lamp, TV, and Internet cables and cords may also need attention. Outlets may appear where not expected, such as at the base of lamps on desks or bedside tables.

## \_\_\_ **Kitchens or Kitchenettes**

Check cupboards and drawers for knives, coffee makers with glass carafes, and other hazards that may be within reach, including matches if the stove is gas. Dishwashing detergent and/or cleaning supplies may be kept in an accessible cupboard. Be aware that ovens, refrigerators, or dishwashers may be more easily opened than yours at home.

## \_\_\_ **Bathrooms**

Soaps, shampoos, and lotions may need to be moved from within reach. In vacation rentals and personal homes, check for cleaning supplies, medicines, matches, and other hazardous products that may be stored in the bathroom. Be sure to store your own toiletries and travel kits out of reach of your child (those with built-in hooks or loops that can be hung from robe hooks or from shower or closet rods can be helpful).

## \_\_\_ **Minibars**

Can your child open the minibar by herself? Are there items inside that could be of danger (glass bottles, peanuts or other allergens in snacks, etc.) or could set you back more than you had planned for this vacation? You may need to set a suitcase in front of it or rearrange furniture.

## **Other Notes & Reminders:**

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