



Safety Tips For Toys With Magnets Or Batteries

Toys with Magnets



- Seek immediate medical care for any child who has swallowed, or is suspected of having swallowed, one or more magnets.
- Products with loose small powerful magnets should be kept safely out of reach of children. Unlike traditional magnets, small powerful magnets, such as rare-earth magnets, have a very strong magnetic pull, creating a unique safety concern. If more than one magnet is swallowed over a short period of time, they can attract one another across the intestines and create a blockage or slowly tear through the intestinal walls. The results can be fatal.
- Small powerful magnets are used in a wide range of items, from jewellery, clothing accessories and household items, to children's products, such as building toys or science kits. If they are loose or contained in a very small item they are dangerous because they are easily swallowed.
- Older children are known to play with these small powerful magnets in their mouths: using them for fake tongue or cheek piercings, or attaching them to braces which can result in accidental swallowing. Teach children of all ages that small powerful magnets should never be placed in their mouth.

Toys with Batteries

- Only adults should install batteries. Improper installation or mixing different battery types can cause batteries to leak or overheat, which can result in injury.
- Only adults should charge batteries. Battery chargers and adapters can pose thermal burn hazards to children.
- Small button batteries, such as those used in talking books, watches and many other common electronic toys, can cause serious internal injuries or death if swallowed. Seek immediate medical attention if a child has swallowed a lithium button battery.
- Make sure that young children cannot open a toy's battery compartment.
- Do not allow a child to take a battery-operated toy to bed. Burns and other injuries could result from batteries leaking or overheating.
- Batteries are poisonous, call a doctor or a poison control centre immediately if a child swallows a battery.



For more information on children's safety, visit: <http://healthycanadians.gc.ca/kids-enfants/toy-jouet/index-eng.php>

Recalls

To check for consumer product recalls, go to: www.healthycanadians.gc.ca

Incident Reporting

To submit a health and safety complaint or report a problem about a consumer product, go to: www.healthcanada.gc.ca/reportaproduct