

Are your children safe in the kitchen?

Every day 10 small children under the age of 5
are severely burnt or scalded in the home

A close-up photograph of a stainless steel pot filled with boiling water, sitting on a gas stove burner. The water is bubbling vigorously. A red rectangular box is superimposed over the pot, containing the text 'Too hot to handle'.

Too hot to handle

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Department of Trade and Industry

Government consumer safety campaign



Keep the handles of pots and pans turned away from the edges of cookers and work surfaces.



Teach toddlers not to play in the kitchen or bathroom. Check for toys you might trip over.



Don't leave flexes for toddlers to reach.



Always check the temperature of the water before bathing children. When filling a bath, run the cold tap first.



Try and keep toddlers occupied out of harm's way when you are cooking.

Always keep hot drinks out of reach.



Prevent scalds by fitting a thermostat to your hot-water boiler. Turn it down to 50°C: you'll also save money.



If someone gets burnt or scalded, keep the affected area under cold water for as long as possible (at least 10 minutes).



Don't remove anything sticking to the injury. Cover it with sterile, non-fluffy material; cling film is ideal. Remove jewellery.

For an adult with a burn larger than the palm of their hand, or for any size burn on a child, you should seek medical attention.



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