

http://kidshealth.org/parent/firstaid_safe/sheets/about_instruction_sheets.html

Cuts

Many kids get cut from falls or using sharp objects like scissors. Some cuts can be safely treated at home. Large, gaping, and deeper cuts – or any wounds that won't stop bleeding – need medical treatment.



What to Do:

If the cut is severe and you can't get the child to a hospital right away or must wait for an ambulance, begin this treatment:

- Rinse the cut or wound with water and apply pressure with sterile gauze, a bandage, or a clean cloth.
- If blood soaks through the bandage, place another bandage over the first and keep applying pressure.
- Raise the injured body part to slow bleeding.
- When bleeding stops, cover the wound with a new, clean bandage.
- **Do not apply a tourniquet.**

Seek Medical Care if:

- the cut is deep or its edges are widely separated
- the cut continues to ooze and bleed even after applying pressure
- the bite is from an animal or human

Call 911 Right Away if the Child:

- has a body part, such as a fingertip, that is cut off (**Put the part that was cut off in a sealed plastic bag right away. Dunk the bag in a container with ice water.**)
- has a cut and the blood is spurting out and difficult to control
- is bleeding so much that bandages are becoming soaked with blood



Think Prevention!

- Childproof so that infants and toddlers are less likely to fall or become injured on table corners, sharp objects, or doors that may slam shut.
- Be sure children wear shoes when playing outside.
- Watch teens when they are cutting with sharp knives.

Burns

Scald burns from hot water and other liquids are the most common burns in early childhood. Because burns range from mild to life threatening, some can be treated at home, while others need emergency medical care.



What to Do:

If a child is severely burned, **call 911 right away**. While you wait for help, begin these treatments:

- Remove clothing from the burned areas, except clothing stuck to the skin.
- Run cool (**not cold**) water over the burn until the pain lessens.
- Lightly apply a gauze bandage.
- If the child is awake and alert, offer ibuprofen or acetaminophen for pain.
- **Do not put any ointments, butter, or other remedies on the burn** – these can make the burn worse.
- **Do not break blisters** that have formed.

Seek Emergency Medical Care if:

- The burned area is large (cover the area with a clean, soft cloth or towel).
- The burns came from a fire, an electrical wire or socket, or chemicals.
- The burn is on the face, hands, feet, joints, or genitals.
- The burn looks infected (with swelling, pus, or increasing redness or red streaking of the skin near the wound).



Think Prevention!

- Be careful when using candles, space heaters, and curling irons.
- Keep children away from radiators.
- Be alert around hot drinks.
- Check the temperature of bath water before putting a child in the tub.
- Check smoke alarm batteries at least once a month.
- Keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen.
- Do not allow young children to play in the kitchen while someone is cooking.