



# The Nuts & Bolts of Childproofing

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November 7, 2008  
Chicago, IL



# Nuts & Bolts of Childproofing

- Cabinet Latches
- Electrical Products
- Furniture Restraints
- Window Devices
- Door Devices



# Cabinet Latches

## Choosing The Latch - Things To Consider

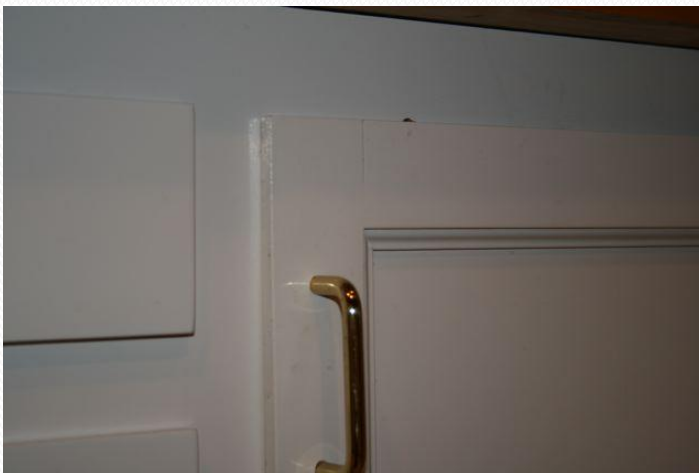
- **Needs of the client?**
  - Who else needs to get in?
  - Is finger pinching a realistic concern?
- **How old is the child?**
  - ***Two years and under?***
    - Most latches will work to keep this age out
  - ***Over two years?***
    - Straight push-down style latches may be mastered this year
  - ***Over three years and special needs kids?***
    - Safeloks and Magnetic Latches will keep kids out the longest
- **What's inside?**
  - Just a mess or true hazards



# Style of cabinet

*Exterior view – cabinet doors and drawers*

- **Flat**
  - Almost any latch will work
- **Recessed Panels**
  - Could make installing screws difficult



# Style of cabinet

*Exterior view – cabinet doors and drawers*

- **Decorative moulding**
  - Could make installing magnetic latches tough
- **Flush front cabinets**
  - There may be no place to install the catch
  - Install latch with no catch
    - Spring latch
    - Tot Lok
    - Kidco Adhesive



# Style of cabinet

*Exterior view – cabinet doors and drawers*

- **Deep over-hanging countertops**
  - Might be no room to reach fingers in to open a manual latch
    - Magnet Latches, Wonder latch
- **Long cabinet pulls**
  - Might be in the way of a magnetic key





## *Interior view – Cabinet Doors*

- **Framed or Frameless**
- **Older style routed doors (inside)**
  - Catch will need to be placed farther back or no catch at all



## *Interior View- Cabinet Doors*

- **Sinks – Check to see if the latch will hit sink**
- **Wobbly Upper Frames – may have to strengthen or install latch upside down on the bottom**
- **Door Thickness – may be too thin for screws or too thick for magnet latches (or needs super key)**

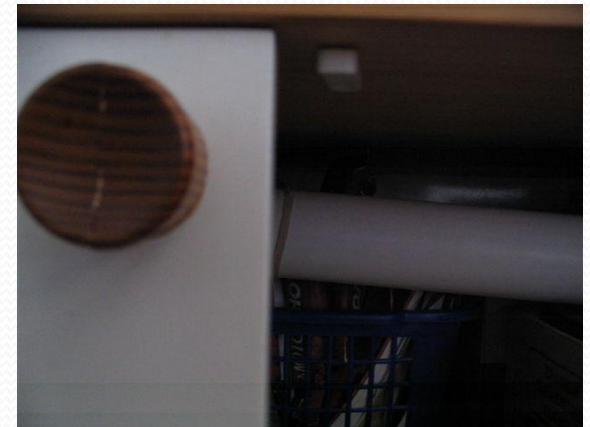




## *Interior view – Cabinet Drawers*



- **Is the drawer front double layered from a drawer box?**
  - **Do you want to knotch it for a tot lok? Maybe you can use a plunger with a spacer on it?**
- **Is the top of the drawer box within a ½” or greater than ¼ ” from the frame above (tall drawer box)?**
- **Is the frame above horizontal or vertical?**



## *Interior view – Cabinet Drawers*

- **Is there a frame above the drawer?**
  - **Makes life easier**
  - **If not, is there ¼” between the side of the drawer box and the cabinet frame? If so, could use a side mount wonder latch**
  - **Maybe could install another latch sideways**

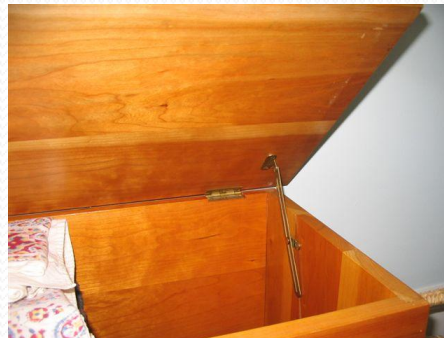


# Special Situations

- *Lazy Susans*



- *Top lift chests and laundry chutes*



- *When all else fails*



# Cabinet & Drawer Latches

## Other Tools:

- Spacers & Longer Screws
- Right Angle Screwdrivers, stubby drivers
- Replacement Knob Screws
- Rotozip, hole saw and dremel

## Other Tips:

- Multiple drills
- Sharp bits, the right size driver tip
- Consistent placement



# Electrical Protection

- Sliding Outlet Covers
- Surge Protector Covers
- Plug Covers
- Cord Conduit/Covers
- Cord Windups
- Blank Plates
  
- You may need backup options!
- Watch out for bad products (“swivel” covers, outlet caps)





# Electrical Protection

## Tools & Accessories

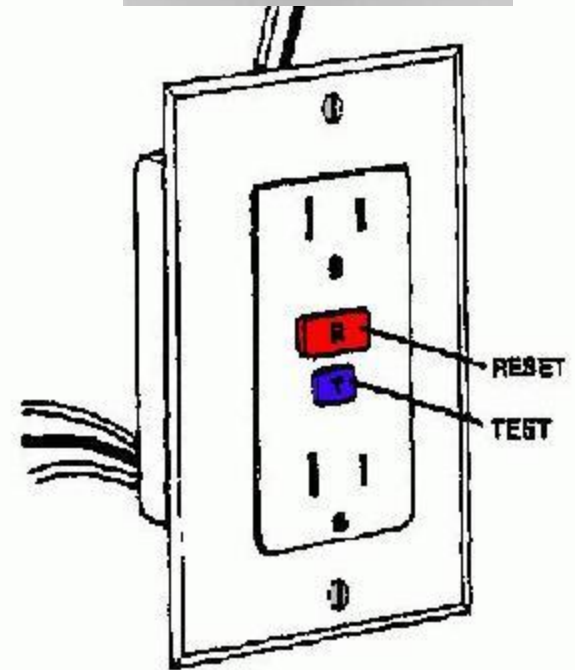
- Rubber handle on screwdriver
- Small slotted screwdriver
- Extra screws (possibly longer screws)
- Razor Knife – to remove old or painted outlets
- Putty (or caulk) – for drywall repairs
- Wire Cutters – for cord conduit
- Spacers – for loose outlets
- Nightlight - for testing outlets
- Tot Lok Key – maybe to hold screws





# Electrical Protection Tips

- Other Problems
  - Stripped screws
  - Broken outlets
  - Single Receptacle outlets (older homes)
  - Worn outlets
  - 2 prong issues
  - Appliance outlets (more current)
- GFCI Tester & GFCI Outlets
- Eliminate Extension Cords



RECEPTACLE TYPE GFCI

# Furniture Tipover

Consumer Reports Video  
about tipover and  
standards

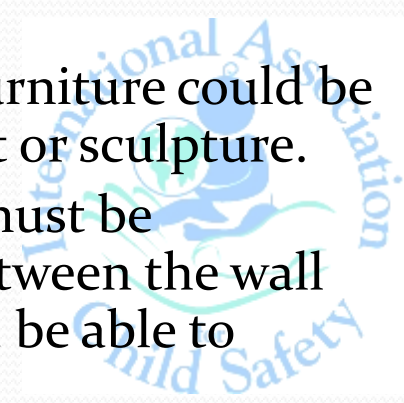
<http://video.consumerreports.org/services/link/bcpid1329233564/bclid1312371522/bctid1325111458>



# Furniture Restraints

- What Furniture is Risky?

- Anything taller than it is wide such as narrow side tables, tables with unstable bases or on pedestals, bar stools, tall lamps and standing mirrors are likely to be tipped over.
- Any appliance or piece of furniture with doors or drawers that if climbed or pulled on could change the center of gravity could be a potential tipping hazard such as a dresser, armoire, file cabinet, free standing refrigerator or stove.
- Additionally, any heavy item on top of a piece of furniture could be pulled or slide off such as a television, potted plant or sculpture.
- If a cable or strap type restraint is used, the strap must be tightened with no slack allowed when installed between the wall and case according to ASTM standards and should be able to withstand 50 pounds of pull.



# Furniture Restraints

- Sometimes it is best to remove the furniture or block access to it.



- Consider Special Needs



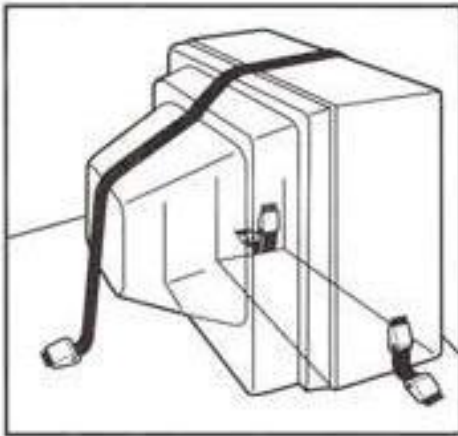
# Furniture Restraints Installation: Tips & Tools

- Walls
  - Studs: Stud finder, Tot lok super key
  - Metal Studs/Beams:
  - Concrete: Tapcon, Hammer Drill, Concrete bits
  - Toggle Bolts
- Furniture
  - Wood
  - Metal
  - MDF or Particle Board



# Other Items to Secure

- Lamps
- TV's & Electronics
- Radiator Covers
- Stoves





# Warning Label



**!** **WARNING**

**Serious or fatal crushing injuries can occur from furniture tip-over. To help prevent tip-over:**

- Place heaviest items in the lowest drawers.
- Do not set TVs or other heavy objects on the top of this product.
- Never allow children to climb or hang on drawers, doors, or shelves.
- Never open more than one drawer at a time.  
(OR)
- Do not defeat or remove the drawer interlock system.

**Use of tip-over restraints may only reduce, but not eliminate, the risk of tip-over.**

*This is a permanent label. Do not attempt to remove!*



# Window Devices

- **Advise parents about keeping furniture away from windows.**
- ASTM Standard F2090-01a
  - With emergency escape (egress) release mechanism
  - Targeting kids up until age 5
  - Limits all spacing to 4 inches or less.
    - Guardian Angel follows this already (with window stop recommendation).
    - Kidco gates should follow standard with double hung windows, but not likely for casement windows.

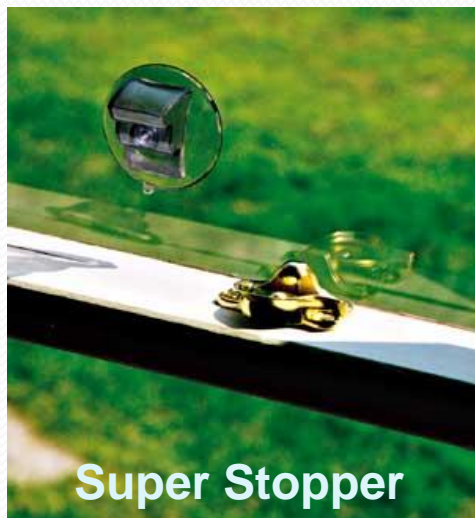
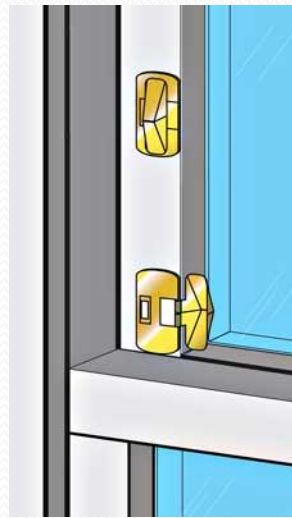


# Window Stops

- Control window opening
- Some vinyl windows have built-in stops
- Products (mostly for double hung or sliding)
  - MAG Brass Window Stops for double hung windows (2 kinds)
  - Burglar Bar clear plastic window stop
  - Sliding Window Stop (metal)
  - Parent Units Super Stopper
  - Window Wedge
  - Chains for Casement Windows
  - Kidco coming out with a window stop (3/09)



# Window Stops



# Guardian Angel Window Guards

- For double-hung, sliding & casement windows
- Horizontal bars for double hung windows
- Vertical bars for casement & sliding windows
- May need a window stop
- Hard to stack guards if limited space for installation  
(due to spacing of guard bars)
- Emergency Release Mechanism
- Different sizes are available (see handout)





# Guardian Angel Window Guards

**Double Hung Window  
Horizontal Bars**



**Sliding Window  
Vertical Bars**





# Casement Windows



# Kidco Safeway or Angle-Mount Safeway

- Instructions are vague for this use.
- About 30" tall so covers most of the lower sash.
- Operates like a gate so bigger kids may be able to unlatch.
- Removable for fire exit.
- Front mount vs. traditional mount.
- Extensions can be added for wide openings.



# Other Window Devices

- 15 inches high & 4 3/4" between the bars. **(May be too short and spacing doesn't follow ASTM)**
- Mounts in the frame beneath the upper window panel. **(Not suitable for all windows)**
- This is a non-opening window guard; not suitable for emergency exit. **(Emergency exit is important)**



# Door Devices

Flip Locks

Surface Bolts

Door Knob Covers

Bifold Locks

Top Door Locks

Finger Guards



# Door Devices

- Select type of lock based on type of door.
  - Interior or Exterior Door
  - Glass, Metal, Solid Wood or Hollow Door
  - Style of Door
    - Pocket doors, Swing doors (kitchens), Sliding doors, Bifold doors, Screen doors & more.
- Consider ease of use of lock for parents in high traffic areas (basement doors).
- Select most reliable lock but try to be consistent in type and placement .





# Door Devices - Installation Tips

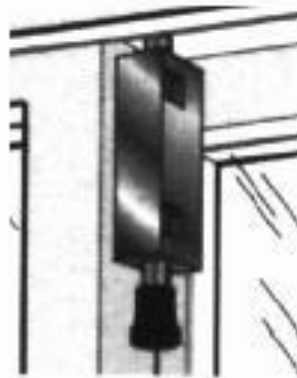
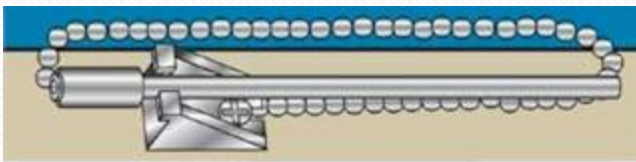
- Exterior Doors (prevent “escape”)
  - Consider fire exit for family members.
  - Consider deadbolts that allow entry with a key so Dad is not locked out!
- Alarms are an extra backup, especially with pools.
- Sliding Doors
  - Exterior Glass Sliding Doors (not all the same)
  - Interior Doors, including shower doors & closets
  - No broom handles!



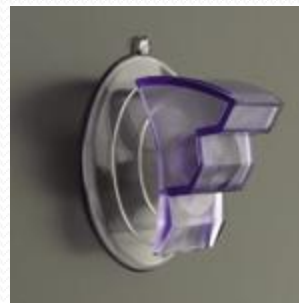


# Sliding Doors Locks

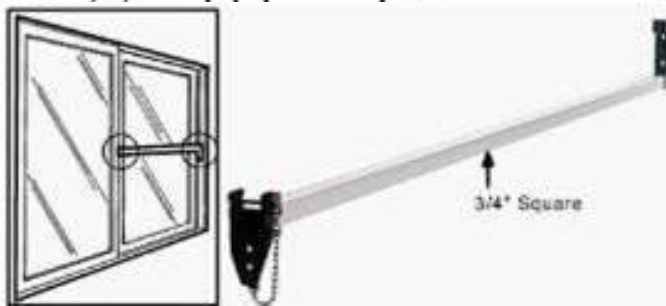
Hardware Locks



BurglaBar



Super Stopper  
by Parent Units



Kidco

# Door Devices - Installation Tips

- Flip Lock

- You need 1/8" between molding & door.
- Double-sided tape may help.
- Consider age & height of other children.
- Check ease-of-use of lock.
- Great for hollow doors, pantries & closets.



- Surface Bolts & Other Locks

- Washers, chisel, hammer, double-side tape & tape measure may be needed.
- Consider if hollow door.
- Good for double doors and storage rooms.



# Lever Door Knob Devices

- Top Door Latch

- Align with trim
- Other tricks for fit
  - Felt pads
  - Use care with peg installation



- Door Knob Covers

- Kidco
- G2
- Safety 1<sup>st</sup>
- Mommy's Helper



# Finger Guard Devices

## Consider Use

- Home
  - Nursery, Double doors, etc.
  - Kitchen “Swing” Doors
- Daycare Center
  - Durability
  - Height



# Finger Guard Devices

- The Shield by American Guardian
  - Installed on one side of a door
  - 39" tall; can be stacked
  - Residential Use
- Finger Alert Guards
  - Cover both sides of a door
  - 2 models (47" or 71" with 180°.)
  - Commercial Use
- Small Removable Guards by Kidco, Kid Kusion, etc. (doors won't close when devices are installed)



Deluxe Finger Alert covers the entire hinge area of doors measuring up to 71" long

