



## Have a Plan

- Have an emergency exit plan and an alternative plan in case of fire. If the older person has a disability, call the local fire department and have them give you some stickers for the windows.

You may want to review some of these issues with your loved one & call the closest Visiting Angels agency to assist you in making your loved one's home safer and happier.

*Show your loved one you care today!*



Making the home safer makes your life easier!

*Peace of Mind!*

## America's Choice In Homecare®



- Up to 24 Hour Care
- Meal Preparation
- Light Housekeeping
- Personal Hygiene Assistance
- Errands - Shopping
- Rewarding Companionship
- Day/Night, Live-In or Live Out Care
- Respite for Family Caregiving



Solution ...  
**Visiting Angels**®  
 LIVING ASSISTANCE SERVICES  
*Select Your Caregiver!*

## Safety for Seniors at Home

*Making Your Loved One's Home Safe*



A guide for family, friends and loved ones

*from America's Choice In Homecare®*

*A Public Service from Visiting Angels®  
 Each agency is privately owned and operated.*





# A Safe Home for Seniors Begins Here!

A Guide For Family, Friends & Loved Ones To Making Home Life Safer.

The purpose of this pamphlet is to better educate and point out the everyday areas of concern that each of us, as healthy adults, take for granted.

What may not be an obstacle to you may be to your elder loved one.

We will review areas of the home that should be addressed to better suit the mobility and agility limitations we can all experience as we age.



## Take a Walk Through The House

- Keep all areas of the home, including hallways and stairs, well-lit, but free from glare.
- Remove scatter rugs, or attach a nonskid backing to them.
- Reduce the risk of falling on uncarpeted floors by ensuring that they are not slippery. Do not use any gloss polish.
- Use night lights in the bedroom, hallways, kitchen and bathrooms.
- Keep the stove area in the kitchen free of towels, paper towels, napkins, curtains, and other things that might catch fire.
- Remove all newspapers & magazines from the kitchen counter areas.
- Keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen, and teach everyone of age to use it.
- Inspect electrical cords for fraying or cracking; be sure they are placed away from walking paths, but not under carpet or furniture, where they could present a fire hazard.
- Set the hot water temperature at 115 degrees or below on the water heater.
- Use slip-resistant decals or non-skid mats in the tub or shower.
- Install grab bars in the bathtub and by the toilet; be sure the screws go directly into the wall studs, so they stay securely in place.
- Check to be sure that extension cords are not overloaded & are clear of walkways.
- Install smoke detectors on every floor of the home and test them monthly.
- Destroy out-of-date medications and those which are no longer being used.
- Place a telephone in the bedroom. Post emergency numbers by all telephones.
- Keep space heaters away from flammable materials, and be sure the room is well ventilated.
- A three-pronged plug should be used in a three hole outlet, or an adapter should be used.
- Always turn off heating pads before an older person goes to sleep.