

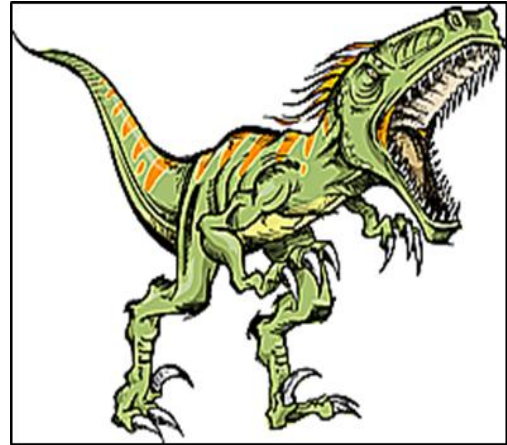
Safety at home is a no-brainer!



By Chris Loomis, safety expert

Common sense has become a thing of the past. It is as extinct as the Velociraptor. But common sense is all it takes to turn your home into a safe place to dwell.

The most familiar type of accident you see in the home occurs as a result of carelessness. Someone wasn't paying attention and within moments, your kitchen is a'blaze.



One fairly overlooked type of accident happens when we overload electrical outlets. Let's face it! We all have many mechanical devices and they need to be plugged in.

Take the entertainment center for instance. On it we have a television, cable box and DVD player. We might also find a stereo. The electrical outlet behind the entertainment center only holds two plugs, so what to do?

This is where most people make a huge mistake. Don't devise some makeshift workaround. Go directly to your local hardware store and purchase a good power strip; one with an automatic shut-off. If there is any type of electrical overload or if someone spills liquid on it, it will turn itself off automatically thus preventing a house fire.

Safety at home is something we can all do! It's not rocket science. It's easy! Even a child can do it, but it takes awareness.

Child's Play

Grab a notebook and pencil and we'll walk through each room observing areas that might be dangerous:

- Eliminate furniture or other items that are sticking out into a walkway.
- Check electrical outlets to make sure there's nothing covering them, such as a bedspread.
- Make sure outlets aren't overloaded.
- Keep gasoline, turpentine and charcoal lighter at a safe distance from electrical outlets or fire source.
- Eliminate sharp table edges by rounding slightly with sandpaper.

Make a habit of walking through your home and taking stock of potential hazards on a monthly basis. This can save the fire department an unscheduled trip to your home. It can save you from being caught on the street in your pajamas at midnight watching your house burn down.

Safety is an attitude that begins in our thoughts. We can create an accident-free environment at work and at home if we believe we can and are committed to the process.

Chris has more than 20 years of professional safety experience. As the marketing manager for DuPont's environmental and safety services, he has seen firsthand the safety challenges faced by plant personnel while working with more than 600 chemical, petrochemical, and manufacturing facilities. Chris is an award-winning international speaker and author.

For more information or to book your next safety speaker, please visit <http://www.safetyattitudes.com> or call Chris Loomis at 713-927-6592.