

# FIREARM SAFETY

More than a third of all unintentional shootings of children take place in the homes of their friends, neighbors, or relatives.

## HOW TO PREVENT A TRAGEDY

There are a few simple ways that you can prevent a tragedy in your home and community:

**LEARN** about safe storage and policy options, which help reduce the risk of gun violence.

**ACT** responsibly and always store your firearms locked, unloaded, and out of the reach of children and those who may be a danger to themselves or others.

**TALK** with your family, friends, and community about responsible gun ownership. Having regular conversations about gun safety with those close to you reduces the chance of family fire incidents.

**ASK** family, friends, and community members about access to unlocked and/or loaded guns in the home.

## FIREARM STORAGE

Modeling responsible behavior promotes safe behaviors of those around you. If you are acting safely, your children, family and friends will follow.

Start by properly storing your firearms:



- **Unloaded**
- **Locked**
- **Out of Reach**

# LEARN TO ASK

Routinely making safe storage questions part of the conversation keeps people informed and alive.

## **Normalize the question:**

“I heard a story on the news that made me decide I should always ask this—do you have any firearms, and how are they stored?”

## **Include it with other safety questions:**

“Before I drop my son off, I just wanted to check if you have pets? And also ask if you have firearms in your house and confirm how they are stored. I want to make sure he knows your safety rules.”

## **Focus it on the kids:**

Kids are curious by nature, always going places and getting into things not necessarily meant for them. Ask:

“You know kids are always getting into things and my daughter is no different. Do you own firearms?” If yes - “How do you store them?”

## **Confirm secure storage practices:**

Following their description, if you need to know more, then you can ask direct questions, like: “What kind of lock do you use?” or “How do you store ammunition?”

**Remember that safety is the ultimate goal when inquiring about firearms.**



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