



Short Safety Subject

Short Safety Subjects are provided by the Public Safety Business Center, Fort Bragg, NC. Our intent is to provide safety topics for the purpose of increasing safety awareness and improving safety performance. Additional Short Safety Subjects are available on the PSBC Business Management Web Site at:

www.bragg.army.mil/psbc-bm/PubsAndForms/ShortSafetySubjects.htm

Safety In The Home



Accidents and injuries can happen at any time, at work and at home. That's why it's important to develop an attitude toward safety that will apply at both location.

Injuries, no matter where they occur, are costly, especially those that are prolonged.

Let's discuss some of the hazards you may find at home and think about ways to avoid them.

One of the most serious accidents that happen around the house is a fall.

Falls from slips on wet or freshly waxed floors, in bath tubs or icy surfaces are predominant.

Falls down cluttered stairways, or stairways that are not lighted properly or have faulty treads, can be extremely hazardous. It's also a good idea to use the handrails.

Using chairs instead of step-stools or ladders have caused many disabling injuries, some of them permanent. When using stepladders, however, never stand on the top step.

Make sure all electrical appliances and tools are grounded and make sure the grounds are effective. Beware of three-prong receptacles where the third wire may be grounded to a plastic pipe. In some cases, re-piping has been done and the line interrupted, in which case there is no circuit to the ground.

Never use electrical appliances or tools when the motors, heating elements or switches are wet, because serious short circuits can result in shock or burns.

Never use electrical appliances or radios while you are in the bathtub.

If you have fuse plugs instead of circuit breakers or busses in your electrical junction box, always be sure the master switch is off before opening it and never replace a blown fuse plug with a piece of foil, a penny or other conductor. You could cause a short circuit that result in a fire. After all, a short circuit caused the fuse to blow in the first place.

Perhaps the most feared home catastrophe is fire. Be sure your home has smoke and fire detectors and fire extinguishers. Never store flammables near heat sources and always put them in safety cans. Gasoline, paints, lacquers, thinners, alcohol, and charcoal and other lighter fluids should be kept in metal cabinets.

The do-it-yourself TV antenna installer is exposed to electrocution hazards.

Beware of overhead power lines.

In many cases you're safer on the job than at home. Let's work to make sure you escape injuries at both places.