

Before you Shop for

Baby Safety Gates

Tips for Selecting the Right Baby Safety Gates from SafetyCentral @ www.KidSmartLiving.com

Baby safety gates are effective barriers in many areas of the home and come in a variety of designs to meet different needs. Selecting the right gate for your space is key for both safety and livability – and it's easy to do with a little pre-planning!

1. Consider Gate Location

Where is the gate going to be used? The location often dictates the type of gate you need. Most gates fall into one of two categories:

Hardware-Mounted Safety Gates

Hardware-mounted safety gates attach directly to the wall or doorway using screws. These are the safest, most secure baby gates and should be used for dangerous areas such as stairways – especially at the top – and for long spans and irregular-shaped areas.

Pressure-Mounted Safety Gates

Pressure gates stay in place using pressure applied to cushioned pads against the walls instead of screws. They're great for the bottom of the stairs and in doorways and hallways, but should not be used at the top of stairs.

2. Measure Gate Opening

What is the size of the opening or area where you'll be installing your gate? Baby safety gates are adjustable to fit a range of widths and can be lengthened further using extensions – some are even designed specifically for irregular shaped areas. Precise measurements are recommended before selecting and installing any baby safety gate.

Basic Straight Baby Gates: Doors, Stairs, Halls and Spans

Measure the opening width straight across -- as well as the height of partial walls or banisters if applicable. If installing gate on an angle, measure the width along the desired angle.

Baby Gates for Irregular-Shaped Areas: Hearths, Entryways

Baby safety gates designed for irregular-shaped areas, such as curved entryways or fireplace hearths, are configured in movable sections and size is measured by running length. The HearthGate and Configure Gate are popular baby gates for irregular areas.

3. Any Special Installation Needs?

Most baby safety gates include hardware to install the gate into a wooden stud, wooden doorway or other secure wooden base. In other situations, installation kits help create a proper mounting surface to securely install baby gates. Plus, installation kits can help prevent or minimize damage to walls and woodwork.

Stairway Kits – A “No Holes” Solution

Banister, spindle and metal railing kits allow installation of safety gates onto stair railings without drilling holes into posts or woodwork. They work with most round, square and combination post styles. One kit is needed per post side; ie: if the stairway has a wall on one side and a post on the other, you'll need one banister kit to install the gate. Stairs with banisters on both sides will need two kits, one per side.

All-Purpose Installation Kits

Multi-purpose kits aid with safety gate installation for hollow drywall (with no stud behind the sheetrock), walls with tall decorative baseboards, and other special needs.

Baby Safety Gate Worksheet

Before shopping for gates, use our checklist to note the gates needed for your home, record measurements, and detail special installation needs:

Gates for Stairways

Qty _____ Width of Gate Area _____

Top _____

Bottom _____

Stairway Kit One Side Both Sides

Square Top & Bottom

Type of Banister Round Top & Bottom

or Combo Round & Square

Stairway Railing Install on Thin Spindles

Metal Railing

Gates for Doorways/Hallways

Location _____ Qty _____ Width of Gate Area _____

Gates for Long Spans

Location _____ Qty _____ Width of Gate Area _____

Gates for Irregular Areas

Location _____ Qty _____ Width of Gate Area _____



For irregular areas, measure the total running length of the area where the gate will be placed.

Special Installation Needs

If the following apply, an All-Purpose Baby Gate Installation Kit can aid installation:

- Hollow Drywall
- Tall/Thick Baseboard
- Cement or Brick
- Uneven Wall or Chair Railings

Ages & Stages:

When should baby gates be installed? Plan to install baby gates when baby begins scooting... crawling is not far behind!

One kit installs one gate side. One or two kits per gate may be required, depending on the installation circumstances.

Installation Kits # of Kits _____



Offering a full selection of child safety items preferred by childproofing pros... plus durable, family-friendly homewares & fun stuff for kids!

Have a Question? Need Suggestions? Please contact us online with safety questions: www.kidsmartliving.com