Children have easy access to firearms.

1 in 3 U.S. homes with children under 18 has a firearm.¹

3 in 4 children age 5 to 14 know where firearms are kept in their home.²

43% of these homes have an unlocked firearm.¹

Easy access to firearms can lead to tragic consequences.

Over 41,000 children and youth* are injured or killed by firearms each year. That equals 113 children or youth a day.³

Unintentional shootings account for 14% of all firearm deaths in children under 15.³

Children as young as 3 years old are strong enough to fire a handgun.⁴

Homicide is the 2nd leading cause of death among young people aged 1 to 24 in the U.S.³

85% of all youth homicides involved a firearm in 2012.³

In 2012, 46% of all youth suicides involved a firearm.³

In 2 out of 3 cases when a child or youth used a family member's firearm to commit suicide, the firearm was kept unlocked.⁵

* Youth are defined as ages 15-24 unless otherwise defined
What’s the solution?

Ask:
Is there a gun where my child plays?

If the answer is “No”
that’s one less thing you have to worry about.

If there are any doubts about the safety of another home, invite the kids to your house instead.

If the answer is “Yes”
make sure all guns are stored, unloaded, and locked with no access to keys, ideally in a gun safe, with ammunition locked separately.

What are the safe storage options?

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<tr>
<td>Cable Lock</td>
<td>Do not install around the trigger.</td>
<td>amazon.com ($7-$20) May be available free from local police.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trigger Lock</td>
<td>Do not use on a loaded gun.</td>
<td>amazon.com ($6-$35)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lock Box</td>
<td>Store ammunition separately. Only adults should have access to keys.</td>
<td>Dick’s Sporting Goods ($30-$100+)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gun Safe</td>
<td>Store ammunition separately.</td>
<td>Cabela’s ($150+) Home Depot ($70+)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take Apart Firearm</td>
<td></td>
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What’s it called? What does it look like? Where can I buy it?


Our thanks to ASK and CSN for information shared here.

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