

## Button Batteries

# Watch out for these hidden dangers in your home!



Button batteries are small, shiny and round. They are found in many household products.

Each year in Canada, hundreds of children face serious harm from swallowing button batteries. **Toddlers are most at risk.**

### Button batteries are commonly found in:



Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

Canada

## How dangerous are they?

A button battery can lodge in a child's throat where an electrical current is triggered by saliva. This causes a chemical reaction that can burn through the esophagus in **as little as 2 hours**. Putting button batteries in the ears or nose can also lead to injury.

**Even used batteries can still be dangerous.**

## Who's at risk?

Children aged 0-5 years are most at risk as they are curious and often put things in their mouths.

## How can I protect my child?

Follow these 5 safety tips to prevent button battery injuries:

- ✓ Be aware of all household items that use button batteries.
- ✓ Regularly check devices to ensure children cannot access the batteries.
- ✓ Always supervise children when they use products containing button batteries.
- ✓ Buy toys and devices with battery compartments that screw shut or those that do not use button batteries.
- ✓ Dispose of used button batteries quickly and properly.

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## What should I do if I suspect my child has swallowed a battery?

Take your child to the nearest emergency department immediately. Give honey to your child on the way to the hospital. The honey coats the battery and can reduce the risk of serious injury. Do not delay seeking medical attention to obtain honey.

***Do not induce vomiting or have your child eat or drink anything else as this can cause further harm.***

***Act fast! Waiting for symptoms to show can increase the risk of serious injuries.***

**Stay informed to keep your kids safe.**

Learn more: [canada.ca/batterysafety](https://canada.ca/batterysafety)



Don't forget to share this important safety information with your family, friends and childcare providers.