

What to do if a child swallows dishwashing detergent.

If your child swallows dishwashing detergent try get the detergent out of their mouth by scooping it out with your fingers, or rinsing the mouth with water and having the child spit this out. Don't make your child vomit - this may cause more harm.

Seek medical advice immediately. Call the National Poisons Centre 24-hour helpline
0800 POISON (0800 764 776)

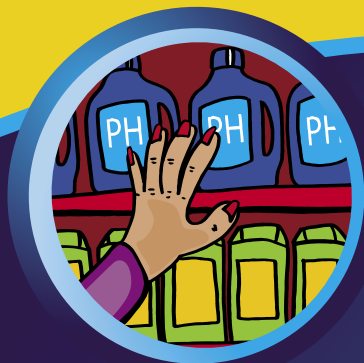


A Safer Choice

Put Your Kid's Safety First!



Are you aware how harmful many dishwashing detergents can be if swallowed by a child? At least 11 children in the past four years have been admitted to the Intensive Care Unit of Starship Children's Health with burns to their throats. Many worried parents call the National Poisons Centre each year after finding their child has come into contact with dishwashing detergent. But, there are simple ways you can help prevent a caustic poisoning happening to your children in your kitchen!

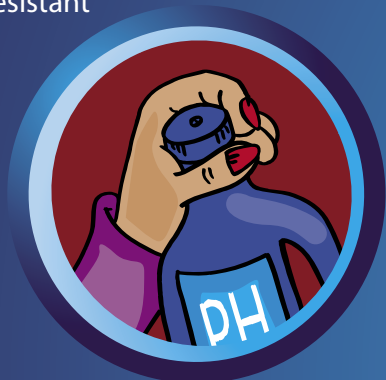


✓ **Select**
non-caustic
products.

Powder solutions with a pH of 11.5 or more must carry the warning 'Caution: Keep out of reach of children'. Enzyme based products are non-caustic and have a lower PH and are unlikely to cause severe injury if swallowed. So selecting a non-caustic formulation is very important.

✓ **Secure** the product safely.

Always choose child-resistant packaging. Make sure auto-dishwashing detergent is securely capped and keep the detergent in its original packaging.



✓ **Store**
it safely.

Keep detergents up high or in a cupboard with a child-resistant latch and never leave it in a place where kids can reach. If you put detergent in the dishwasher, don't go away and leave it – put the machine on straight away.



✓ **Stop**
wandering
hands.

Watch your children around the dishwasher and remind other caregivers to do the same. If your dishwasher has a lock make sure this is used and the dishwasher stays locked even after the cycle is finished. Many children have become ill eating detergent and residue left in the machine before and after a dishwashing cycle.

