

BUTTON BATTERY SAFETY



Button batteries can be found in many everyday household items and toys

Button batteries are small, but powerful, disc-shaped batteries. They are about the size of a 5p piece and can be found in all sorts of toys and household items.

If your baby swallows one, it can cause internal bleeding and even death. That might sound scary, but there are things you can do to keep your child safe.



Rospa

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child accident
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To help keep your child safe:

Know what items have button batteries in them

You may be surprised at the number of things in your house that use button batteries, so have a check and take a note of what does.



Make sure the batteries are secure in the items

Check that the battery is in a screwed or otherwise secure compartment. Put any products with unsecured button batteries out of reach of children.

Store spare batteries out of your child's reach

Keep any extras you have far out of the reach of children.

Keep used batteries out of reach and dispose of them quickly

It is very easy to take an old battery out of something and forget all about it. Dead batteries still have a charge and are just as dangerous.

Speak to older children about the risks

Talk to your older children about the dangers of button batteries and why they should stay away from them.



Act fast if you suspect a child has swallowed a button battery

If you think your child has swallowed a button battery, take them straight to the nearest A&E department or call 999 for an ambulance. If you have it to hand, take the battery packaging, toy, or gadget, but don't delay.

Symptoms may not be obvious. Your child might be coughing, gagging, or drooling, or pointing to their throat or tummy, but symptoms can come and go. You know your child, so trust your instincts. Do not let your child eat or drink and don't try to make them sick.

More advice on keeping your child safe is available at: [Parentclub.scot/safety](https://parentclub.scot/safety)

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