



# Keeping your family safe from Household chemicals & fumes

Every year, the Atlantic Canada Poison Centre receives calls from people who have been poisoned from mishaps with household chemicals & cleaning products.

The following tips will help you reduce the chance of this happening in your home:

## 1 Use household chemicals with caution.



Always follow directions on product labels, and pay close attention to chemical hazard symbols.



Use household chemicals in a well-ventilated space: open windows/doors or use fans if necessary.

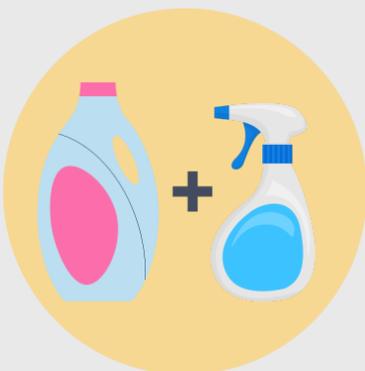


Always wash your hands after using household chemicals. Wear gloves if possible.

## 2 Do not mix household chemicals.

When mixed together, certain common cleaning products can create a poisonous gas that can make you sick. Two common examples are:

**Liquid Bleach + Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>)**



= Chloramine Gas



**Liquid Bleach + Vinegar**



= Chlorine Gas

**These gases can cause severe breathing problems and can irritate your eyes and skin.**

## 3 Store household chemicals safely.



Store all chemicals in a high/locked place, away from children.



Store all chemicals in their original containers.



Store all chemicals in a dry, cool area.

## 4 Be prepared for an emergency.



Save local poison centre, fire & other emergency numbers in your phone contacts for easy access.



If you think you have been poisoned, call your local poison centre immediately. Trained experts will tell you what you need to do.



### Poison Centre Number:

In NS, PEI, NB and NL, call the Atlantic Canada Poison Centre at 1-844-POISONX (1-844-764-7669)

A program of IWK Health



[www.childsafetylink.ca](http://www.childsafetylink.ca)