

Lindam Safety FAQ

When will I need a safety gate?

Safety gates are designed to secure certain areas of your home, traditionally the top and bottom of your stairs. However, they can also be used to keep your little one out of a potentially hazardous room - such as the kitchen or keep them within a room such as their bedroom on a night. Safety gates are suitable for children up to the age of 24 months, however the best time to buy your safety gate is when your little one starts to crawl.

Where will I need to put a safety gate?

1. Stairs

The most important place to fit a safety gate is at the top and bottom of your stairs, preventing your child from falling and causing themselves injury.

2. Kitchen doorway

Using a safety gate on your kitchen doorway is also a good idea. Kitchens hold a multitude of dangers from hot appliances to cleaners and chemicals. A safety gate ensures that your little one can't gain access without you being in the same room.

3. Bedroom door

Changing from a cot to a bed brings a whole new challenge. With more freedom to get in and out of bed, a safety gate on their bedroom door means you can be assured that they won't wander from room to room in the night and more importantly, will be unable to get into the bathroom, another danger zone when unsupervised. Using a gate also helps to discipline your child to stay in bed, without the need to close the door completely.

4. Bathroom door

If you like your little one to be able to come into your room on a night and would prefer not to fit a gate to their bedroom door, it could be a good idea to fit a safety gate in the bathroom doorway. Bathrooms, like kitchens, contain many dangerous substances, from bathroom cleaners to shampoos, shower gels and lotions, not to mention medicines. Not only can these but water itself be extremely dangerous, with risk of drowning.

What types of safety gates are available?

Lindam provides two main categories of safety gates:

1. Pressure fit.

These gates are ready to assemble and do not require drilling or screwing to the wall. The pressure fit gate design incorporates a power frame; a "u" shaped frame which enhances the stability and safety of the gate through added strength. The pressure fit gates can be extended using extensions (3 sizes available, creating a maximum gate width of up to 117cm - opening sizes vary so check each model for exact sizes).

2. Wall mounted

These gates are mounted directly onto the wall and therefore require drilling. The benefit however is that they are extending gates and can fit a maximum opening of 106cm (opening sizes vary so check each model for exact sizes). They also do not have a bottom rail which is a feature of the pressure fit gate and can be a potential trip hazard, especially at the top of the stairs. We recommend that a wall mounted safety gate is used at the top of the stairs for additional safety and strength. Wall mounted gates do not have a bottom support rail which can potentially cause a tripping hazard when used at the top of the stairs.

[Which safety gate should I choose?](#)

Once you have considered whether you want a pressure fit or a wall mounted gate, you need to consider the features you need your gate to have. We have many different safety gates to suit every requirement:

1. Auto close pressure fit gate - the auto close system automatically closes the gate door behind you, so you are always safe in the knowledge that the gate is closed.
2. Extending wall mounted gates - the extending gate fits directly into the wall and can be extended from 63.5cm up to 106cm (opening sizes vary so check each model for exact sizes). They are the preferred solution for use at the top of the stairs and do not have the bottom support bar, which can be a potential trip hazard.
3. Wooden safety gate - available as a wood / metal pressure fit gate or an extending wall mounted gate, the primary advantage to these gates is their stylish and sleek look. They come with all the benefits and features of their metal counterparts.
4. Travel flexi guard - a lightweight and portable barrier alternative to conventional safety gates. This 'twists and folds' into its own carry bag and is perfect for travel or occasional use - such as at relatives or grandparents.

[How do I know whether the safety gate will fit?](#)

We advise that you measure your doorway from your skirting board as this is the narrowest part of the doorway. This will provide the most accurate measurement.

[I want a pressure fit gate - do they all fit the same space?](#)

Metal pressure fit models safety gates fit openings between 76cm and 82cm without the need for extensions (opening sizes vary so check each model for exact sizes.) We recommend that you measure your opening before you buy your safety gate. If you have an opening which is larger than 82cm, you can use extensions which will extend your gate up to 117cm. Extensions come in 3 sizes - 7cm, 14cm and 28cm.

[If I choose an extending gate, will I need extensions?](#)

Wall Fix extending gates screw directly into your wall and extend to fit openings of 63.5cm to 102cm (106cm is you choose the wooden extending gate). You do not need additional extensions with the wall fix options.

My biggest worry is the stairs - what style of safety gate is best?

We recommend that a wall mounted safety gate is used at the top of the stairs for additional safety and strength. Wall mounted gates do not have a bottom support rail which can potentially cause a tripping hazard when used at the top of the stairs. Pressure fit gates are suitable for the bottom of the stairs.

Do I need a gate on every door of every room?

Safety gates are designed to secure certain areas of your home, traditionally the top and bottom of your stairs. However, they can also be used to keep your little one out of a potentially hazardous room - such as the kitchen or keep them within a room such as their bedroom on a night.

Safety gates are suitable for children up to the age of 24 months, however the best time to buy your safety gate is when your little one starts to crawl.

How many safety gates will I need?

It is recommended that you secure the top and bottom of your stairs using a safety gate, so you will need at least 2 gates.

How can I secure areas when I'm on holiday or staying with relatives?

If you are using a pressure fit gate, it is paramount that you check the pressure of the gate in a daily basis. This is very easy to do. Simply ensure that both sets of the top and bottom adjusters are tight. The unique pressure indicator on all the Lindam pressure fit safety gates provides a visual indication to warn if the gate has lost pressure. If you can see the red indicator, your gate requires additional pressure for optimum safety.

All the gates have been tested to the highest British and European standards however their effectiveness will depend on how the gate is used and the general maintenance and upkeep of the gate.

Checking the gate daily will ensure you maintain its effectiveness and safety and will also ensure you spot any sign of damage. Like any product, if you look after your gate it will last for the duration it is intended.

Important Tips

1. Fit a wall mounted safety gate to the top of the stairs
2. Check your pressure fit gates daily to ensure they maintain their pressure and strength
3. Ensure you read the mounting instructions to ensure the gate is installed correctly as incorrect installation can be dangerous
4. Always fit your pressure fit safety gates with the wall cups and sticky pads provided
5. Fit safety gates either before or as soon as your child becomes mobile

How do I make empty plug sockets safe?

Socket Covers are used to prevent children inserting fingers or other objects into plug sockets. If resources are scarce you can limit these to areas where children spend most of their time. However, it is felt that modern sockets pose minimal danger.

My toddler is always trying to open the kitchen drawers and cupboards to see what there is inside, which is a real hazard. How do I prevent him from hurting himself?

Simple safety accessories such as multi-purpose latches, cabinet and drawer locks restrict access to these areas. They are easy to install and remove when required. For optimum safety a safety gate should be fitted to the kitchen doorway if possible to restrict your toddler from entering the kitchen unsupervised.

How do I know that a product has been tested to the relevant British, European or International safety standards?

Most standards require that the number of the standard is placed either on the product or the packaging. Look out for safety warning and correct use or fitting guidelines. Major retailers will never sell a product without reviewing certification from the supplier.

Are safety products a guarantee of safety in the home?

No. Used correctly, safety products help reduce potential dangers and hazards within the home however it is every parent's responsibility to ensure their child's safety. Safety products should be checked regularly to maintain efficiency and replaced at the first sign of damage or wear and tear. It is parents' responsibility for the safety of their child within the home.