

## Key Safety Checks

Kitchen: Check your kettle has a short or curly flex; never leave a chip pan unattended and make sure it is no more than a third full - better still use oven chips; check all cleaning products are stored out of sight and reach, and in cupboards with child-resistant catches; when cooking try and use the back hob-rings of your cooker and make sure pot and panhandles are out of reach.

### The Facts

Almost two-thirds of accidental house fires are caused by cooking - that's more than 30,000 fires every year.

Everyday 6,500 children aged 14 years and under end up in A&E.

Every year around 25,000 under-fives are rushed to hospital because it's thought they've swallowed something harmful.

At least one child under five is admitted to hospital with scalds caused by bath water every day.

Hot drinks are the number one cause of scalds injuries among young children - in 2003, 9,100 under-fives were rushed to hospital because of scalds from hot drinks and kettles.

The peak time for accidents is during the summer, on Sundays and in the evenings.

*"In the UK, someone is scalded or burnt every 90 seconds. Each year 112,000 people have to go to casualty with scalds or burns. Another 250,000 have to consult their doctor. \* "*

*\* DTI figures for 1999*