



## Home Safety Checklist

Remaining independent in your home often requires some adjustments or improvements to your home so your home is a safe environment that allows you to function better and more comfortably. These adjustments can range from small changes that don't cost anything and can be modified by the client, their families or caregivers, to more significant home improvements which may require monetary investment and the hiring of a contractor. The larger changes to the home may be daunting, but can be a cost-effective method to allow the client to stay in his or her home. Ultimately, a client's safety in their own home should be of primary importance. All of the possible precautions that can be taken in creating a safe environment for the client should be considered and changed if necessary. Taking steps toward safety allows for the client to remain safe, comfortable and offers opportunity for better quality of life. The following checklist is to aid in ensuring you or your loved one will be safe at home.

DESCRIPTION	YES	NO
<b>Floors</b>		
Are walkways between rooms clear of obstacles		
Are area or throw rugs secured		
Are items such as books, shoes and boxes off the floor		
And telephone and electrical wires secure and off floor		
<b>Stairs</b>		
Are loose items stored on stairs		
Are there any broken or uneven steps		
Is there proper lighting with a switch at the top and bottom of staircase		
Is carpet on stairs secure		
Is handrail secure		
<b>Kitchen</b>		
Are commonly used items placed in lower shelves at waist height		
Is a step stool with a grab bar available		
Is Stove, microwave and refrigerator in working condition		
<b>Bathroom</b>		
Are rugs and bath mats secure		
Is non-slip appliqués on floor of tub or shower		
Are grab bars present inside and next to shower		
Are towel racks secure		
Are bathing items such as soap and shampoo within easy reach (waist height)		
Is toilet seat secure		
Is toilet seat equipped with elevated seat or grab bars		
Is tub a walk in tub		
<b>Bedroom</b>		

Is a lamp within easy reach of the bed		
Is a nightlight available to illuminate area between bed and bathroom		
Does bed have side rails		
Are there 2 exits from the bedroom		
<b>General</b>		
Are outlets overloaded		
Is there adequate lighting		
Are there any combustibles stored near a heat source ( keep away at least 3 feet)		
Are space heaters present, is there enough space around them		
Is the home / room a proper temperature		
Does gas appear to be operating properly		
Does electricity appear to be operating properly		
Do doors lock adequately		
Do windows lock adequately ( are burglar bars present )		
Are Emergency phone numbers easily readable and visible		
Is a portable fire extinguisher present		
Is a portable phone present		
Is smoke detector present and working properly ( when were batteries changed last)		
Fire escape plan in place		
Is there a first aid kit present		