

A close-up photograph of a child's hands reaching towards a black handgun lying on a light-colored, speckled surface. The child is wearing a blue and white plaid shirt. The background is blurred, showing more of the child's clothing and the surface.

MAKE GUN OWNERSHIP SAFER

Practicing safe gun storage protects our kids, prevents accidents, and keeps our guns out of the hands of criminals. Together, we can KEEP 'EM SAFE, IN THE GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Safe gun storage is the duty of EVERY gun owner.

Gun safety isn't just knowing how to handle a gun properly—it's also about keeping it from getting into the wrong hands. Whether you keep a gun in your car, home, or somewhere else, safely storing it 24/7 is a must.





THE 1-2-3s OF SAFE GUN STORAGE

Keep guns safe when not in use by following these three basic steps.

1

**Store firearms locked
and unloaded.**

2

**Store and lock
ammunition safely.**

3

**Keep others from
getting access to stored
firearms 24/7.**



SAFE GUN STORAGE CHECKLIST

Are you practicing safe gun storage? Make sure you can check ALL the boxes in our checklist.

- Firearms are stored unloaded and locked using a safe gun storage device.
- Ammunition is safely stored.
- Access to stored firearms is restricted from unauthorized persons (family, friends, children, contractors, repair personnel or uninvited persons) at all times – 24 hours a day, seven days a week, no matter where the firearm is located.
- All locking devices that use keys are in a place children and other unauthorized users are unaware of.
- I have read and understood the laws around my responsibility and liability, as the owner of the gun, should it be used by an unauthorized person such as a child.
- I have spoken to family members and trusted users asking them to use these safe storage steps. (Consider keeping this checklist near where you store your guns!)
- When my firearm is taken outside of my home (e.g., in a car), it must still be stored safely.
- Safe storage of firearms is practiced at all times.



**A HIDDEN
FIREARM
IS NOT A
SAFELY
STORED
FIREARM**

There's a storage option for every need and budget.

Protecting all citizens means knowing how to stop weapons from reaching the wrong hands. There are many choices when it comes to safe gun storage. Choose what works best for you.





SAFE GUN STORAGE DEVICES

The storage device you choose will depend on your needs and budget. For more information about the different storage devices available, visit our website.



CABLE LOCK



TRIGGER LOCK



**BIOMETRIC
LOCK**



GUN CASE

The Grand Rapids Public Schools Department of Public Safety does not endorse any type or manufacturer of gun safes or locks.



SAFE GUN STORAGE DEVICES



STRONG BOX



GUN CABINET



**GUN SAFE /
VAULT**

The Grand Rapids Public Schools department of Public Safety does not endorse any type or manufacturer of gun safes or locks.

Practice safe gun storage at ALL times.

Safe gun storage must be practiced 24/7. Speak to your fellow neighbors about safe gun storage.

The more people that know, the better we can
KEEP 'EM SAFE, GRAND RAPIDS.





TALKING TO OTHERS ABOUT SAFE GUN STORAGE

TALKING TO OTHER PARENTS

Talk about safe gun storage in any home your child visits. Ask if they own any firearm and how they are storing it. Remember, your priority is keeping your child safe.

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

- ★ Don't be confrontational. Be respectful.
- ★ Make sure you're completely comfortable with the person's answers before you let your child stay with them.
- ★ There is no harm in asking. There is potentially more harm in not asking.
- ★ Most parents, including gun owners, won't mind your questions at all.



TALKING TO OTHERS ABOUT SAFE GUN STORAGE

TALKING TO KIDS

Children are curious and will have questions about guns. Whether there is a firearm in your home or not, it is important to talk to your child about the rules of gun safety. They should know how to act if they see a gun and you're not around.

Choose a time and place where they won't be distracted to have the conversation. Consider their age when you are talking to your child about gun safety. Ask them what they already know, and encourage them to ask questions. And talk to them again to make sure they remember!



TALKING TO OTHERS ABOUT SAFE GUN STORAGE

TALKING TO YOUR COMMUNITY

It's also important to talk to your fellow Texans about safe gun storage.

You can talk to others and share our resources about gun safety at group or community events, PTA meetings, religious organizations, HOA meetings, or other gatherings.

LEARN MORE AT:

**GRAND RAPIDS POLICE DEPARTMENT
BE SMART FOR KIDS – SECURE GUN STORAGE
STATE OF MICHIGAN – FIREARM SAFETY
KIDS SAFE FOUNDATION**

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN – GUN SAFETY AND CHILDREN