

# Ensuring Home Safety: A Handbook for Home Firearm Safety Safeguarding Your Loved Ones Begins Here

#### Firearm Safety at Home for Michigan Residents

Welcome to our comprehensive guide on ensuring the safe storage and handling of firearms in your home. Whether you're a seasoned gun owner or new to firearm safety, this handbook is designed to equip you with essential tips and practices to maintain the safety of your family and community. By adhering strictly to the common-sense rules outlined in this handbook, both parents and children can prevent firearms accidents in the home and contribute to a safer environment.

### **Why Firearm Safety Matters**

Understanding the importance of firearm safety is crucial for several reasons:

As firearm owners, it's our responsibility to handle and secure firearms properly within our homes.

Preventing accidental shootings, particularly those involving children, is of utmost importance.

Reducing the risk of theft and unauthorized access is vital for the safety of our households and communities.

Upholding responsible gun ownership helps foster a positive image of gun owners within our communities.

#### **Safe Storage Solutions**

Follow these guidelines for safe firearm storage:

Secure Your Firearms: Ensure guns are stored in a locked cabinet, safe, or gun vault.

Utilize Trigger Locks: Prevent unauthorized access by utilizing trigger locks.

Separate Firearms and Ammunition: Keep ammunition stored in a separate, locked container.

Educate Family Members: Educate children about firearm safety and stress the importance of never handling firearms without adult supervision.

### **Safe Handling Practices**

Implement these safe handling practices:

Always carefully and completely unload sporting firearms before bringing them into the home, ensuring the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.

Store ammunition in a locked location separate from firearms, out of reach of children.

Ensure firearms are securely stored away from children and unauthorized persons, using firearm locking devices or secure storage solutions.



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Properly clean and store firearms after use, thoroughly checking to ensure they're unloaded before storage.

If maintaining a firearm for home security, ensure it's accessible only to authorized individuals and not to others. Consider using lockable cases for quick access.

#### Remember the Basics:

Always Treat Every Firearm as if it's Loaded.

Keep Your Finger Off the Trigger until you're ready to shoot.

Point Firearms in a Safe Direction at all times.

Know Your Target and What's Beyond It.

#### Get Involved

Attend Firearm Safety Courses: Gain knowledge from certified instructors about safe handling and storage practices.

Join a Gun Owners' Association: Engage with like-minded individuals who prioritize responsible gun ownership.

Spread Awareness: Share this handbook with friends, family, and your community to promote firearm safety.

**Remember, responsible gun ownership starts with you.** By implementing these practices and encouraging others to do the same, we can create safer homes and communities for everyone.

For more information, visit www.Projectchildsafe.org

## Disclaimer: Always follow local laws and regulations regarding firearms and firearm safety.

If an individual fails to store a firearm as required and a minor obtains the firearm and any of the following occur, they are guilty of a crime under <u>Public Act 16 of 2023</u>, as follows:

- If the minor possesses or exhibits the firearm in a public place or possesses or exhibits the firearm in the presence of another person in a careless, reckless or threatening manner: a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for up to 93 days or a fine of up to \$500, or both.
- If the minor discharges the firearm and injures themselves or another individual: a felony punishable by imprisonment for up to five years or a fine of up to \$5,000, or both.
- If the minor discharges the firearm and inflicts serious impairment of a body function on themselves or another individual: a felony punishable by imprisonment for up to 10 years or a fine of up to \$7,500, or both.
- If the minor discharges the firearm and inflicts death on themselves or another individual: a felony punishable by imprisonment for up to 15 years or a fine of up to \$10,000, or both.

These penalties could be imposed in addition to charges for other criminal offenses arising from an incident.