

Luckow-Healy
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safety seat in the center position of the backseat in vehicles with a center rear seat lap belt.

Refer to your vehicle's owner manual and the child-safety seat installation instructions when in doubt of a properly fitted seat.

It's also a good idea to keep the child-safety seat instructions in your vehicle or in a readily-accessible place in your home to refer to at a moment's notice.

Consider passenger needs. Before running out for that errand or taking off on that family vacation, ask yourself if your vehicle is passenger friendly.

Do you carry a vehicle emergency kit? Road map? Your family's favorite music selections? Non-perishable snacks that don't pose choking hazards for young children? Do you carry a blanket for young snugglers? Small travel pillows for longer trips?

If you don't have a vehicle emergency kit, now is the time to make one. It should include the following:

- First aid kit (antiseptic, syrup of ipecac, bandages)
- Flares
- Jumper cables
- Bottled water
- Non-perishable snacks
- Flashlight
- Tire changing equipment

• Blanket

Keep this kit in your vehicle's cargo area where it isn't a hazard to small child explorers.

Space permitting, it's a good idea to store toys, games or reading material in a plastic storage bin accessible to passengers, particularly on longer trips.

What's the password? Go beyond these initial safety precautions and think outside this circle.

Family vehicle travel, whether around town or around the states, requires a great deal of going into and out of unfamiliar places and faces.

In a split second, parents can turn their heads and a young child can wander off and get lost. He or she is then at the mercy of strangers.

Beyond the golden rule, *Never go with strangers*, it's a good idea to teach your child a family password. Select a word each family member will remember.

For example, say you all voted on the password pizza. If your child is ever approached by a stranger outside of your presence, instruct her to ask that person, "What's the password?" Upon confirmation that the person is a stranger, it's important for her to understand she should run and seek help immediately.

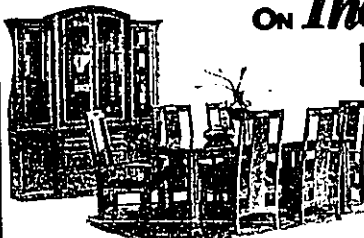
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Presented by Carl J. Crespi & Mark Pronoff

SHOWER AND BATH IDEAS

When remodeling a bath, be sure to incorporate such safety features as non-slip floors in tub and shower areas and adjacent towel-off areas. Because soap dishes and towel racks were never designed to bear body weight, grab bars should be installed in the tub and shower to assist bathers in changing positions. Another good idea involves outfitting the shower area with a built-in seat to be used when washing feet or shaving legs. And to avoid burns due to sudden changes in water-temperature pressure, install a water valve that automatically regulates water pressure and/or water temperature. The valves should be positioned away from the showerhead so that adjustments can be made without reaching under the water stream.

This week's column provides helpful tips on how to ensure a safe bath and shower. From initial consultation through installation and follow-up, MODERN KITCHEN & BATH can help you create a bathroom that exceeds your expectations. We are an authorized DuPont Coram® dealer. A Coram sink won't chip or scrub away, and scratches and cuts are easy to remove. Visit us at 819 E. Fourth St., or call us at 545-0600 for design and installation expertise. In addition to baths, we also design kitchens, entertainment centers and offices.

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