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a non-caustic formula.

✓ **Secure**  
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✓ **Store**  
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✓ **Stop**  
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**A Safer Choice**

Do you know how many children are seriously hurt after swallowing automatic dishwashing detergent? In the last four years, 11 children who swallowed automatic dishwashing detergent were admitted to Starship Children's Hospital and five of these were in intensive care. The National Poisons Centre handles hundreds of such incidences every year and these numbers are growing. So put your kids' safety first!



✓ **Select non-caustic products.**

Powder solutions with a pH of 11.5 or more must carry the warning 'Caution: Keep out of reach of children'. Finish Enzyme based products are non-caustic and are labeled 'irritant' as they have a lower pH and are unlikely to cause severe injury if swallowed. So selecting a non-caustic formulation is very important.



✓ **Store it safely.**

Keep detergents up high or in a cupboard with a child-resistant latch and never leave it in a place where kids can reach. If you put detergent in the dishwasher, don't go away and leave it – put the machine on straight away.



✓ **Secure the product Safely.**

Always choose child resistant packaging. Make sure auto-dishwashing detergent is securely capped and keep the detergent in its original packaging.



✓ **Stop wandering hands.**

Watch your children around the dishwasher and remind other caregivers to do the same. If your dishwasher has a lock make sure this is used and the dishwasher stays locked even after the cycle is finished. Many children have become ill eating detergent and residue left in the machine before and after a dishwashing cycle.

## What to do if a child swallows dishwashing detergent.

If your child swallows dishwashing detergent try get the detergent out of their mouth by scooping it out with your fingers, or rinsing the mouth with water and having the child spit this out. Don't make your child vomit - this may cause more harm. Seek medical advice immediately.

Call the National Poisons Centre  
24-hour helpline

**0800 POISON**

(0800 764 776)