

# Planet ThinkSafe



## ThinkSafe Sam's Safety Steps

Every year in Western Australia many people are hurt and more than 500 die from accidents. ThinkSafe SAM wants you to know and use three steps to help keep yourself and others safe.

### 1. Spot the hazard

The first step in preventing accidents is spotting the hazard.

**A hazard is anything that could hurt you or someone else.**

- Each day you will be around lots of hazards. For example, broken glass on the footpath is a hazard.
- You will spot some hazards easily, but you may not realise some things are hazards.
- Use your senses to spot hazards. Look around, listen, notice any strange smells (like smoke) and use your knowledge about things that might hurt you. However, don't touch hazards if there is any chance you may be hurt, and definitely don't taste!
- You could also talk to your parents or an adult about hazards.

### 2. Assess the risk

**Assess the risk means working out how likely is it that the hazard could hurt someone and how badly they could be hurt.**

- Whenever you spot a hazard, assess the risk by asking yourself two questions:
  - How likely is the hazard to hurt me or someone else?
  - How badly could I or someone else be hurt?
- To help decide which hazards are likely to cause serious harm, talk to friends, teachers or parents.
- If a hazard could hurt someone badly or kill someone, make the changes or tell someone about it.

### 3. Make the changes

**Make the changes means fixing the hazard yourself if you can, or telling someone who is able to fix it or can get help.**

- You can make a hazard less dangerous by:
  - Getting rid of it (this is the best way)
  - Choosing the safest way to do something
  - Using something that is less hazardous
  - Separating hazards from people with screens or fences
  - Using protective gear like a bike helmet.

SAM's steps are just an easy way of saying three safety principles all Western Australian workplaces are required to follow. These safety principles are: hazard identification, risk assessment and risk control.

**Use ThinkSafe Sam's Safety Steps to help keep people safe at school, home and in the community.**