

BABYSITTING A GUIDE FOR SITTERS



ACCEPTING THE JOB

- ♦ You're in business for yourself, so be ready to tell your future employer:
- ♦ Days you are available
- ♦ Pay you expect
- ♦ Hours you are available
- ♦ Experience you've had & provide references if requested.

KNOW YOUR EMPLOYER

If unfamiliar to you, ask who recommended you and check it out before accepting the job. If in doubt, advise your parents. Do not advertise for babysitting jobs in supermarkets, community bulletin boards, drug stores or laundromats.

BE INFORMED

- ♦ Obtain the parents' names, address and telephone numbers.
- ♦ Ask about the number of children you will be sitting and their ages.
- ♦ Ask about transportation to and from the job.
- ♦ Ask what hours you are expected to work.

ON THE JOB

- ♦ Have them show you all the doors and windows and how to operate any locks or alarms you are unfamiliar with.
- ♦ Find out where first aid supplies, clean clothing, fire extinguishers are located.
- ♦ Obtain any special instructions (medications, children's snacks, bedtime, use of TV, video games, and radio).

WHEN THE PARENTS LEAVE

- ♦ Check all the doors and windows after parents leave. Make sure they are closed and locked.
- ♦ Keep a constant watch on children to avoid any accidents.
- ♦ If you hear any suspicious noises, check them out by turning on the outside lights. Do not go outside.
- ♦ If you suspect someone is there, call the police immediately by dialing 9-1-1.
- ♦ If you receive unusual or obscene telephone calls, do not let the caller know you are alone. Do not talk to the caller. Hang up and call the police. 9-1-1.
- ♦ If someone comes to the door requesting to come in, do not let them in the house. In fact, do not open the door for anyone other than your parents or the children's parents.
- ♦ Keep drapes and shades closed and leave the lights on.
- ♦ Do not have friends over to the house while you are babysitting.
- ♦ Keep texting and calling to a minimum.

IN CASE OF FIRE

If there is a fire in the house, get the children out of the house first, then call the Fire Department (9-1-1) from a neighbor's home.



WHEN THE PARENTS RETURN

- ♦ Report any unusual happenings to the parents.
- ♦ Make certain you are escorted by an adult.
- ♦ If your employer appears intoxicated, insist that someone else take you home.
- ♦ If possible, it's best to have your parents drop you off and pick you up from the job.
- ♦ If you have your own car and will be driving yourself to and from the job, call your parents and let them know you are leaving the job, and what route you will be taking home.

GET BABYSITTERS TRAINING

The American Red Cross offers "Babysitters Training" at the Georgetown Recreation Center.

<https://recreation.georgetown.org/teen-activities/babysitters-training/> Check the website often to see when the class will be held, or call the Center at (512) 930-3596. The Georgetown Recreation Center is located at 1003 North Austin Avenue.

BABYSITTING CHECKLIST

Where are you babysitting:

- Address _____
- Phone _____
- Parents' Cell Phones: _____

Where parents will be:

- Name _____
- Address _____
- Phone _____

Emergency Contact Other Than Parents:

- Name _____
- Address _____
- Phone _____

Family Doctor:

- Name _____
- Phone _____

Hospital:

- Name _____
- Phone _____

GEORGETOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT
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