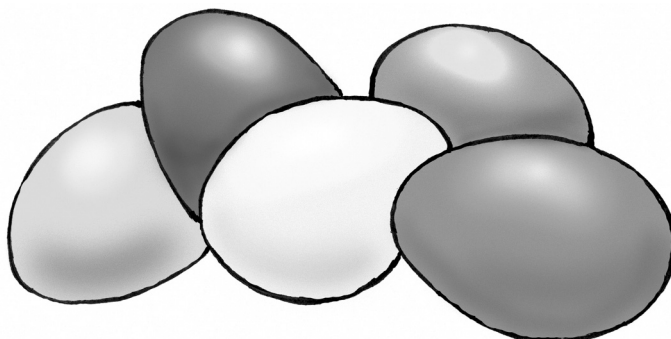


## Easter Egg Hunts Start With Safety

Kids anticipate the yearly hunt for those meticulously dyed Easter eggs. But Easter eggs can be dangerous if they are not cooked correctly or are unrefrigerated, and hunts can become dangerous if eggs are hidden in unsafe locations.

For safe cooking and hunting:

- Buy fresh eggs no more than a few days before cooking them.
- Put one layer of eggs in a pot and cover them with water. Boil 12 minutes for medium eggs, 15 minutes for large and 18 minutes for extra large. Put an extra egg in as the test egg. Both the white and the yolk should be firm before removing the eggs.
- Refrigerate eggs immediately and let them cool before dyeing.
- Discard any cracked eggs.
- Use only food-safe dyes.



- When hiding the eggs, avoid electrical dangers.
- If indoors, steer clear of stoves and toasters, and never hide an egg inside of an appliance.
- If outdoors, don't hide eggs in tool sheds, near power tools or electric water pumps, or near animal waste.
- Don't allow eggs to go unrefrigerated for more than two hours

if they will be eaten. Bacteria love protein-rich foods.

- Make a list of where you hide the eggs so none are forgotten and left to rot.

Eggs used for an Easter egg hunt can be dangerous for human consumption. They are usually unrefrigerated longer than two hours, and the eggs can become contaminated with animal waste.

It is much safer to color one batch of eggs for eating and a second batch for the egg hunt.

Remember the food safety rule: When in doubt, throw it out! ■

## Keep Spring Do-It-Yourself Projects Safe

Break out the power tools, Dad, because spring is here. But while the weather may be right for home improvement, your electrical system might not be ready for safe power tool use.

Ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) are fast-acting circuit breakers that cut off power in less than 1/40 of a second—enough time to save you from getting shocked in case of a ground fault.

Your home may already have GFCIs in its outlets, but if not, they can be installed inexpensively.

Portable types can be connected to the outlet or the cord of the tool itself.



Here are some other safety tips from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration for an accident-free do-it-yourselfer:

- Never carry a tool by the cord or yank the cord to unplug it.

- Keep cords away from heat, flammable substances and cutting edges.

- Use gloves and safety footwear and eyewear for every project.

- To avoid accidental starting, don't hold your finger on the switch when carrying a tool.

- Wait a few days after it rains to do outside work. Don't use tools in wet or damp locations.

- Keep work areas well lit.

- Remove cords from areas where they could cause a tripping hazard.

- Tag any damaged electric tools or wires and remove them from the work area.

- Use double-insulated tools designed to prevent electric shock. ■