

# Poison Prevention Antidote



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## Ice Melt/Rock Salt Safety

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Dropping temperatures means slippery sidewalks and roads. Ice-melting chemicals, commonly known as **ice melt** or **rock salt**, are used to keep walkways safe. All chemicals, however, can be risky if misused.

### What is ice melt?

Most ice melts contain a combination of chemicals such as sodium, magnesium, potassium, calcium, and chloride. These chemicals lower the freezing point of water, allowing ice and snow to melt. Children may accidentally eat or play with ice melt crystals that get tracked inside the house from shoes or are found on the sidewalk outside.

### What happens if my child touches/eats ice melt?

Small amounts of ice melt are unlikely to cause serious problems. Exposure can cause irritation of the mouth, stomach, skin, or other areas that come into contact with the product. If you know or suspect your child has eaten ice melt, remove the product from your child, wipe out the inside of their mouth with a soft, wet cloth, give them water to drink, and wash their hands and face with soap and water. Call Poison Help at 1-800-222-1222 for further advice.

### How do I use it safely?

Keep ice melt locked away and out of reach as with all household hazards. Every ice melt is different, so follow the label instructions for how much to use for the surface being covered. Remember, more is not better!



Note: Pets can develop dryness and irritation on their paws if they walk through sidewalks treated with ice melt. Wipe off and wash their paws and fur as soon as they're inside to prevent burns. Call your veterinarian for further guidance or call the ASPCA Animal Poison Center Phone Number at 1-888-426-4435. There is a fee to use this service.

If you suspect your child has eaten any amount of ice melt, **call Poison Help right away at 1-800-222-1222.**

### Upcoming Events

- 2/22/2025-Black Youth with Stethoscopes event



### Have you heard?

- Even a small amount of alcohol can have harmful effects on a child.
- Children are naturally curious and mimic adult behaviors.
- Remember to keep wine, beer, liquor, and mixed drinks up and away from children.
- To a child, drinks containing alcohol can look and taste like juice.
- If you host a party, be sure to clean up when the party ends. Children who wake up early may drink beverages that have been left out.

If you suspect a child has ingested any amount of alcohol, call 1-800-222-1222.

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