

Throwing Away Used Needles and Syringes

When you use needles or syringes at home, you need to throw them away safely.

- Use a strong container that has a cap or lid, such as a bleach or detergent jug or a coffee can. Do not use milk cartons or glass bottles. You can also buy needle boxes at your pharmacy.
- Put your needle and syringe in the container right after use. Do not recap the needle.
- Cap the container tightly after each use.
- Keep your container out of the reach of children and pets.
- When the container is $\frac{3}{4}$ full, put the lid on tightly. Use heavy tape like duct, packing or electrical tape to seal the lid.
- Check with your local pharmacy, trash company or health department about what you should do with the container.
 - Some cities have collection sites at hospitals, clinics, drug stores or fire stations where you can dispose of the container.
 - Your trash company may allow you to set the container out beside your trash. This is so it can be handled safely and not be mixed in with regular trash.

