Preventing TV Tip-Over Accidents

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) estimates that in 2005 at least 3,000 children younger than age 5 were treated in U.S. hospitals emergency rooms because of injuries associated with TV tip-overs. In addition, from 2000 through 2005, CPSC received reports of 36 TV tip-over deaths. More than 80 percent of all these deaths involved young children. The injuries and deaths frequently take place when kids climb onto, fall against or pull themselves up on shelves, bookcases, dressers, desks, chests and television stands. In some cases, televisions placed on top of furniture tip over and cause a child to suffer a traumatic and sometimes fatal injury.

The following safety tips are recommended to prevent furniture or TV tip-overs:

- Verify that television is placed only on furniture that is stable on its own. For added security it is recommended that you attach to the wall or anchor to the floor all entertainment units, TV stands, bookcases, shelving, and bureaus using appropriate hardware, such as brackets, screws, or toggles.
- Place the television on sturdy furniture appropriate for the size of the TV or on a low-rise base.
- Push the television as far back as possible.
- Place electrical cords and audio/visual cables out of a child’s reach, and teach kids not to play with them.
- Remove items that might tempt kids to climb on or near the television, such as toys and remote controls, from top of the TV and furniture.

See the Reference Guide for more information on how to secure the TV.

Does your picture quality seem poor?
Do you have a cable or satellite box?

Factors other than your TV can affect picture quality.

1) Cable or Satellite Set-Top Box (STB)
Request an HD STB from your service provider and review your STB settings.

You may need to adjust your STB audio and picture settings, otherwise you may experience issues such as: Poor picture quality, black bars on the top or sides of the screen, no audio, empty black boxes on the screen.

Contact your service provider if you have any questions on STB usage.

2) Broadcaster
The broadcaster controls the quality of the program. Some programs are broadcast in High Definition (HD), while other programs are broadcast in Standard Definition (SD), even on HD stations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of content stations can broadcast:</th>
<th>SD Station</th>
<th>HD Station</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SD Content</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HD Content</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both HD &amp; SD content</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SD content on HD channels does not create an HD picture!

3) Original Recording Quality
The quality of the picture you see also depends on the type of camera used when the original recording was made.