



# What to do if you find a discarded needle and syringe

1. Do not be alarmed.
2. Get a rigid-walled, puncture resistant, plastic container, with a well-secured, screw top lid (not glass, aluminium, or frosted plastic).
3. Bring the container to the needle and place it on the ground.
4. Pick up the needle from the blunt end – do not touch the sharp point.
5. Do not try to re-cap the needle.
6. Put the needle, point first, into the container.
7. Tightly seal the container.
8. Put the container in a domestic rubbish bin.



Tell children never to pick up a needle, but to let an adult know if they find one.

## What to do if you injure yourself with a discarded needle

- Wash the area gently with soap and water as soon as possible
- Apply antiseptic, if available, and a clean dressing
- Obtain prompt medical advice from your doctor or hospital emergency department.

## Problem areas

If you are regularly finding needles and syringes in a particular area, please contact your Local Government Environmental Health Officer.

## Further information

Visit [healthywa.wa.gov.au](http://healthywa.wa.gov.au)