

SECURE FIREARM STORAGE FOR CHILDREN OF VETERANS



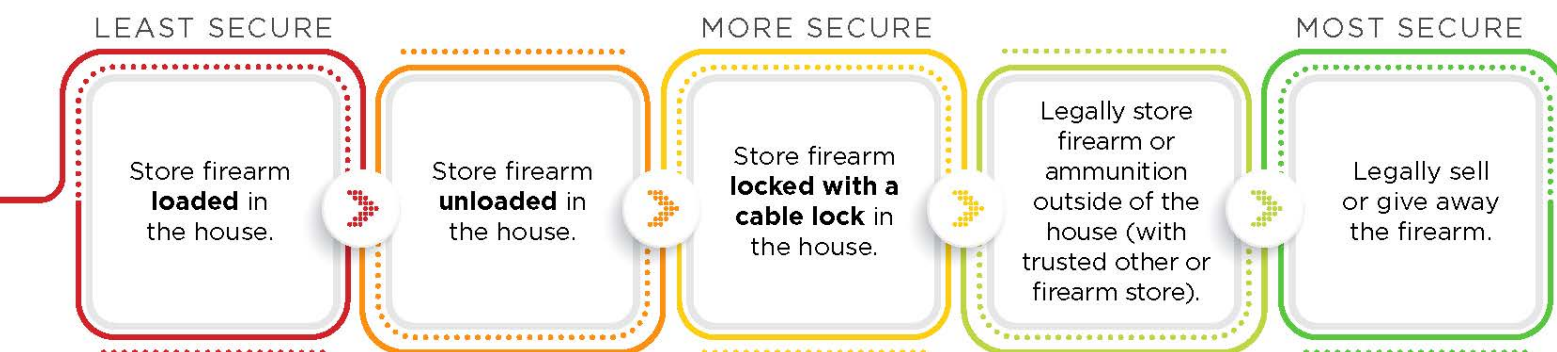
VA | U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

*Firearm ownership is a constitutional right that comes with **responsibility**.*

Firearms and Children

- Household firearms are most commonly used for suicide.
- In almost 3 out of 4 school shootings, the student used a household firearm or a firearm from a friend or relative's home.
- 3 out of 4 children know where firearms are kept in their home.
- Children as young as 2 years old can discharge a firearm.
- Young children can accidentally hurt themselves or others.
- Children are curious. Teaching children not to touch guns is **NOT** enough. Studies show that young children (especially boys) taught not to touch a firearm still touch it.
- 1 out of 3 firearm injuries and deaths could have been prevented by secure household storage.
- Secure firearm storage increases the time and effort to access a firearm:
 - » It reduces risk of accidental injury by making it more difficult for a child to access the firearm.
 - » It gives a child who may be considering suicide time to rethink acting on their thoughts of suicide.

Options for Secure Firearm Storage



Firearms can protect your children, but it's up to you to protect your children from firearms.

Firearms are the leading cause of death for children in the US.

