

# Safely Store and Dispose of Pain Medications

## Safe Storage Tips

After being prescribed a prescription pain medication, consider the following medication storage options:



Store your medication in the original container and out of sight.



Keep medication in a **locked** container, drug-safe cabinet, or drawer, and out of the reach of children and pets.



If you have leftover medication, it is important to safely dispose of any unused or remaining pills.

## Safe Disposal Tips

Once finished with a prescription pain medication, consider the following medication disposal options:



Read the materials that came with your prescription instructions for disposing of unused medication.



Take advantage of local drug take-back events or community drop boxes.



Dispose of unused medications in the trash with an unpleasant substance.



Visit [FDA.gov](https://www.fda.gov) to find a list of medications that can be flushed.