FINDING OUR BALANCE PREVENT SLIPS, TRIPS & STUMBLES



simple ways to prevent falls and maintain your independence when you age

1	Keep moving Find an exercise class near you and work on improving balance and strength. Bring a friend!
2	Talk to your health care provider Tell them about any recent falls and review your medication to make sure side effects aren't increasing your risk of falling.
3	Keep your home safe Remove trip hazards like cords and furniture; increase lighting in dark spaces; and install railings on both sides of stairs and grab bars in areas like the bathroom.
4	Get your vision and hearing checked annually Eye disease and normal aging can make it difficult to judge distances or see hazards.
5	Talk to your family and enlist their help to stay safe. Falls are not just an issue for older adults.

For more information about what YOU can do to prevent falls visit <u>doh.wa.gov/findingourbalance</u>.



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