

window safety tips

Children can fall from a window or strangle on window cords. Protect your child's safety.

- **Be sure to keep furniture, or anything else children can climb, away from windows.** Also, never leave a child unattended.
- **Teach your children not to lean against window screens and not to play near them.** Window screens are not strong enough to keep a child from falling out of a window. Screens are designed for the exchange of air and to keep insects out, not children in.
- **Keep window covering cords out of the reach of children.**

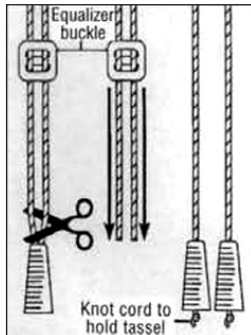
Do not knot or tie cords together to shorten their length. This creates a new loop for a child to become entangled.

Always adjust the cords to their shortest length possible. If ordering new custom window coverings, specify that you want a short cord.

(Replacement safety tassels are available free of charge at most window covering retailers. Consumers can call the Window Covering Safety Council at 1-800-506-4636 to find the location of the nearest store or to order free tassels.

- **Protect your child's safety. Use window safety devices.**

Window safety devices prevent windows from opening more than 100 millimetres (4 inches), the space wide enough for a child to crawl through.



- **Test your window safety devices regularly to ensure they are in good working order.** They should have a release mechanism so that they can be fully opened for escape in case of an emergency.

City of Toronto Municipal Licensing & Standards Offices

North York District Office:
North York Civic Centre, 5100 Yonge Street
416-395-7000

Toronto and East York District Office:
Toronto City Hall, 9th Floor, West Tower
416-392-9200

Scarborough District Office:
Scarborough Civic Centre, 150 Borough Drive
416-396-7071

Etobicoke York District Office:
2 Civic Centre Court, 4th Floor
416-394-2535

 **TORONTO** Municipal Licensing & Standards

SAFEHOMES
SAFE KIDS



A Guide for Toronto

TENANTS

WINDOW SAFETY DEVICES

get them, use them



KEEP KIDS SAFE!

window safety devices – get them, use them

The regulations

For your protection, the City of Toronto requires window safety devices to be installed on apartment windows that do not lead to a balcony that are located two metres (6 feet, 6 inches) or more above the ground.

Safety devices must prevent any part of these windows from opening more than 100 millimetres (4 inches), the amount of space a child can crawl through.

Common area windows that do not lead to a balcony must have a guard that complies with the Ontario Building Code, if the lower sill is less than one metre (3.28 feet) above the floor.

What is my landlord required to do?

Your landlord, building owner or property manager must pay for the window safety devices, have them installed and maintained in good working condition.

As a tenant what am I required to do?

As a tenant, you should make sure that window safety devices are kept in place and remain fully operational. If they become damaged, report this to your landlord, building owner or property manager.

What should I do if my windows do not comply with the regulations?

If window safety devices are missing from your windows or are not in good working order, do the following:

1. Inform your landlord.
2. Make a written note, including the name of the person to whom you spoke and the date you discussed it.

If the problem has not been taken care within a reasonable amount of time, contact your local City of Toronto Municipal Licensing and Standards office and file a complaint.



These are two of a number of available window safety devices



What happens to the complaint?

When your local Municipal Licensing and Standards office receives your complaint, an officer will come and look at the problem.

If there is a violation to the Toronto Municipal Code, the officer will either issue a Notice of Violation or an Order to Comply requiring the necessary repair work to be completed within a specified time limit.

Window safety regulations are designed to ensure your safety and security.

To learn more about window safety or to get a copy of the bylaw regulations, log on to www.toronto.ca and follow the links to municipal codes/by-laws or call Access Toronto at 416-338-0338. TTY 416-338-0889