

WINDOW SAFETY CHECKLIST

On average, 100 children die each year from fall related injuries and over 2 million children are injured.¹



Warm weather and the urge to open a window pose a potential danger that many people don't realize until it's too late - **window falls**.

Please check all the rooms in your home and make sure they are safe places for your children to play or nap.

- ✓ Teach children about the hazards of playing near an open window and make sure they understand that a screen will not stop them from falling.
- ✓ Never put beds or other furniture under a window.
- ✓ Do not allow children to stand on toys or other items to look out a window.
- ✓ Routinely check your screens to make sure that they are secure, and if you have concerns please call maintenance. **Remember: SCREENS DO NOT PREVENT FALLS.**
- ✓ Check the cords on your blinds and other window-coverings to make sure they do not pose a choking hazard. Keep cords up, out of the reach of small hands. Make sure all cords are free-hanging and are not looped or knotted.
- ✓ If you require additional safety measures for your windows, please inquire at your local Hunt Residential Management office.



WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Important Tips for Window Safety



WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

A nationwide study published by the American Academy of Pediatrics in 2011 reviewed hospital visits by children injured by falling from a window.² The study found:

- 25% of the children required admission to the hospital.
- 58% of the children were male.
- 48% of the children sustained head or face injuries.
- Children 0 - 4 years old were more likely to sustain head injuries.
- Children 0 - 4 years old were 1.65 times more likely to die or be hospitalized due to a window fall than older children.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

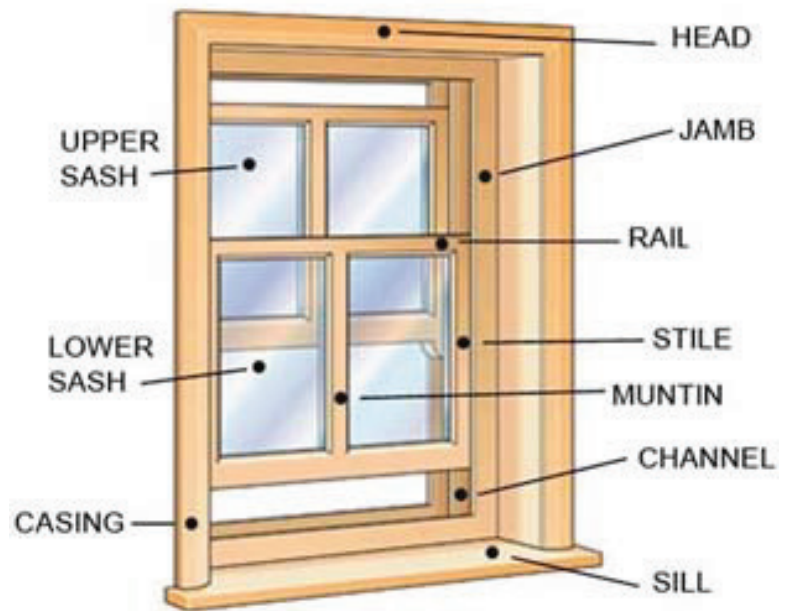
- **Close it!** Close upstairs windows if an unattended child will be in the room.
- **Move it!** Anything that could become a ladder should be moved away from upstairs windows. Look for toys, boxes, beds, and other furniture kids could use to climb to the window.
- **Check it!** Routinely check your windows (while the children aren't watching) to ensure the locking mechanism is in proper working order. If a window lock isn't working properly, please call Maintenance.
- **Add it!** There are various options available that prevent the window from opening more than 4 inches. These child safety devices can be found at local hardware stores and online. Please check with the maintenance or management office before installing.

WHAT KIDS SHOULD KNOW

- **Kids can't fly!** Stress the importance of being safe around windows.
- **Don't push me!** Children should never push or lean against a screen or window frame. Teach them that a window screen will not stop them from falling out of the window.
- **Don't cross the line!** Kids should never lean or reach out an open window. Teach them to never reach across or climb on the window ledge.
- **Don't monkey around there!** Climbing is fun on the playground but can be dangerous near stairs or an open window.

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SAFE WINDOW OPERATION

- To open the lower sash on your window, unlock the sash and push up, keeping fingers away from the sill channel to prevent fingers from being pinched.
- To open the upper sash on your double hung window, unlock the lower sash before pulling down the top of the upper sash to lower it.
- When operating the thumb button to tilt the lower sash for cleaning, keep fingers on the outside of the window sash to lower it.
- Keep fingers away from the sash channel at all times to prevent injuries.
- If the upper sash does not stay up, or becomes difficult to raise or lower, call maintenance and do not use until the window is repaired.



Have more questions about window safety?
Please call our Office.
We're happy to help!

References: 1. Safe Kids USA 2. Harris FA, Rochette LM, Smith GA, Pediatric Injuries Attributable to Falls From Windows in the United States in 1990-2008, *Pediatrics*. 2011;128(3); 454-462