

SAFETY HAZARD BLINDS AND CURTAIN CORDS

Safety at Home

Accidental strangulation can happen very quickly. Do not leave your children unattended in a room where they may become entangled in blind or curtain cords.

There are several simple steps you can take to minimize this risk—and help to keep children safe—if you already have corded blinds or curtains in your home:

- Keep the cords out of reach of children.
- Keep cords separated and NEVER tie them together.
- Make sure the blinds or curtains have safe design features and carry warnings about potential strangulation hazards, and make sure no loops are present.
- Do not put your child's bed or playpen near a window with corded blinds or curtains.
- Do not leave your child unsupervised near a corded blind or curtain.
- Do make sure cords of all kinds are kept well of out of the reach of children.

If you have questions or require assistance please call your Community Center or Maintenance Office.

If your home has the blinds described in this brochure, please contact your Community Center to place a work order so a maintenance technician may repair the blind cords.

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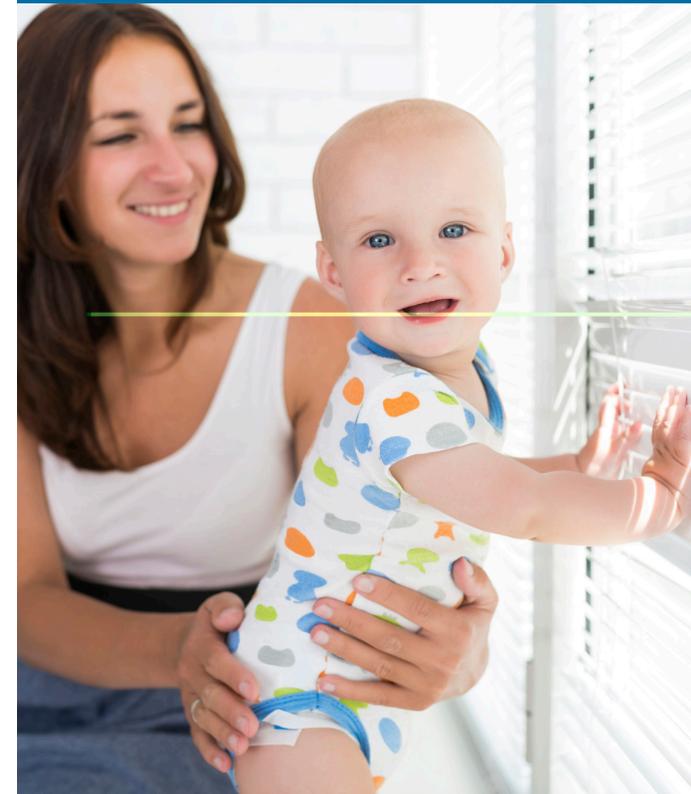
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Blinds and Curtain Cords

SAFETY ALERT



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SAFETY HAZARD BLINDS AND CURTAIN CORDS

Blind and curtain cords can pose a serious risk for babies and young children.

Children can injure, or even strangle themselves on the hanging cords of blinds and curtains.

A child can place their head in the loop created by a blind cord. If the child then tried to sit or falls down, they can strangle themselves in the loop.

According to the Window Covering Safety Council, almost 800 children in the United States have died as a result of blind and curtain cord strangulation since 1973. The average age of the children was four years old.



- ❌ Do not place your child's bed, highchair or playpen near a window where they can reach the curtain or blind cord. The child may become entangled in the cord while playing or sleeping.

- ❌ Young children love to climb and will often climb on furniture to look out the window. Do not put sofas, chairs, tables, shelves or bookcases near windows with corded blinds or curtains. Toddlers may become entangled in the cord and lose their footing.



- ❌ Make sure curtain and blind cords are out of the way and are not left hanging within the reach of children. A child jumping or playing near the cord could become wrapped in the cord and strangled.



- * *The bottom of any cord should be out of the reach of children.*

✓ FOR VERTICAL BLINDS

- ✓ The cord or the chain loop used to open and close vertical blinds can also strangle children.
- ✓ Install a cord tensioning device that encloses the cord or chain loops.
- ✓ Fix the device firmly to the wall using a screw—materials such as double-sided tape may become loose if the cord is pulled on by a child and the cord may then become a strangulation risk.



Protect the children in your home by raising awareness of blind and curtain cord safety. For more information, visit windowcoverings.org.