



Prevent Think Life Safety

For additional information, call 503-805-8482

Child Window Fall Prevention

Children ages 5 and under are at high risk of falling from upper floor windows. They often don't realize that screens will give way, causing a fall to the ground below. If you have young children in your home, take a moment to safeguard your windows by considering the following ideas:

Windows

- Windows that are on the second floor or are above hard or dangerous surfaces create the greatest potential for falls, injury, and death.
- Window Opening Control Devices, devices designed to limit a window opening to less than 4 inches, are the best protection. If properly designed, these devices will also release with a single motion (no tools required) to allow for an older person to escape in case of an emergency (small children are usually not capable of self-escape).
- Other devices can lock windows closed or limit their opening but may not be easy to open for other purposes. Look for Window Opening Control Devices (window stops, window guards, or safety screens).
- Window guards can be installed that securely cover the window opening but can be released (window bars). The mechanism must be of a design that does not allow children 5 and under to open or release it.
- Check the Stop At 4 web site at www.stopat4.com for more information on products and availability. It may save a life.

Children

- Children are naturally curious about what's happening outside. Provide places for them to see the outdoors but without being subject to a dangerous window situation.
- Teach children to be safe around windows (identify a clear space, much like you might do around a stove or fireplace).

Environment

- Keep beds, toy boxes, and other furniture that allows kids to climb to window height away from windows.
- Prepare your home before the warm weather arrives, times when open windows are an everyday occurrence.
- Use proper devices on windows to prevent opening beyond 4 inches. This is no place to take a shortcut.