



7 easy steps

for blind and curtain cord safety

1. Make sure your children cannot reach any blind or curtain cords.
2. Make sure the bottom of any blind or curtain cord is at least 160 cm above the floor.
3. Move children's cots, beds, high chairs or playpens away from windows with blind or curtain cords.
4. Make sure your child cannot climb on furniture and reach blind or curtain cords.
5. Wrap blind cords securely around a hook attached high on the wall.
6. Install a cord tensioning device for vertical blinds.
7. When installing new blinds, seek advice from the supplier about products that use 'wands' instead of cords to operate the blinds.

Are killer cords in reach of little hands at your house?

Many parents, grandparents, friends and carers do not realise that blinds and curtain cords have the potential to injure or strangle babies and children.

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

Cord-related injuries and deaths are very easy to prevent.

In 2006, the Queensland Government introduced a mandatory safety standard for the supply of new blinds, curtains and shades. Although the standard ensures all new window coverings are safe, there are many unsafe blinds, curtains and shades still in Queensland homes.

Is your home safe?

Safety tassels, which join the ends of blind cords together and split when pressure is applied, are available from hardware stores. You can also get hooks and other devices that will keep your home safe.

For more information on product safety and blind or curtain cords, visit Fair Trading's website

www.fairtrading.qld.gov.au

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