

Window Covering Safety Recall

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and The Window Covering Safety Council (WCSC) are announcing an industry-wide voluntary corrective action plan covering roman-style shades and roll-up blinds to prevent the potential hazard of strangulation to young children. The recall involves window coverings that can form a loop and cause strangulation. According to information provided by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, since 1990, more than 200 infants and young children have died from accidentally strangling in window cords.



Consumers can obtain free retrofit kits for roman style fabric looped and flat panel shades and roll up blinds online at www.windowcoverings.org or by calling WCSC's toll-free phone line at 1-800-506-4636.

Parents and caregivers are being reminded of potential window-cord dangers and are urged to **use only cordless window products in homes with young children.**

To maximize window-cord safety when young children are present, consumers are urged to follow these safety guidelines:

- **Install only cordless window coverings in homes with young children.** Replace window blinds, corded shades and draperies manufactured before 2001

with today's safer products.

- Move all cribs, beds, furniture and toys away from windows and window cords, preferably to another wall.
- Keep all window pull cords and inner lift cords out of the reach of children. Make sure that tasseled pull cords are short and continuous-loop cords are permanently anchored to the floor or wall. Make sure cord stops are properly installed and adjusted to limit movement of inner lift cords. Lock cords into position whenever horizontal blinds or shades are lowered, including when they come to rest on a windowsill.

The Window Covering Safety Council is a coalition of major U.S. manufacturers, importers and retailers of window coverings.

Access additional information using the links below:

Window Covering Safety Council:
<http://www.windowcoverings.org/>

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission:
<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml10/10073.html>

NBC Today Show video, December 15, 2009:
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/21134540/vp/34434392#34427526>