

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND BUILDINGS
WINDOW GUARD POLICY**

**SPECIFICATIONS FOR WINDOW GUARDS
DOUBLE HUNG WINDOWS**

1. Guards shall be constructed of rigid metal, free of sharp projections, edges, or rough surfaces.
2. Guards shall be so constructed as to reject passage of a solid four (4) inch sphere at every space and interval.
3. Guard shall bear a one hundred and fifty pound (150 lb.) load at its centerspan when extended to its maximum width. A test with guard attached in accordance with manufacturer's instructions for installation, must be performed, and results, including information as to temporary or permanent distortion, certified by a Professional Engineer.
- 4a. On guards utilizing non-telescoping bars, there shall be a permanent spot weld on at least two of the horizontal bars so as to provide a minimum of two (2) inches overlap when the guard is fully extended.
- 4b. On telescoping bars, when the guard is extended to the maximum allowable width, there shall be a minimum overlap of five (5) inches or 1/3 of the length of the bar, whichever is greater.
 1. A permanent label shall be affixed on at least one horizontal bar, on each facing surface. Said label shall read: **WARNING! EXTENSION OF THIS GUARD BEYOND * _____ INCHES IS DANGEROUS AND ILLEGAL*** (insert the number of inches appropriate to the particular model in this space).
 2. On telescoping guards, there shall be an additional stile or other approved support(s), at the telescoping opening of the outer tubing of the bars, that shall prevent any spreading of the bars.
 3. **ALL TELESCOPING GUARDS FABRICATED AS OF MARCH 15, 1984 OR THEREAFTER SHALL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH SPECIFICATION #4 AS REVISED ON 12/16/83, IN RE: LABELING AND THE ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING STILE. MANUFACTURERS OF TELESCOPING GUARDS FABRICATED IN CONFORMITY WITH SPECIFICATION #4 AS IT READ BEFORE 12/16/83, AND APPROVED BY THE WINDOW GUARD POLICY AND ACCEPTANCE BOARD UNDER PRIOR SPECIFICATIONS, SHALL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT BY MARCH 1, 1984, MODIFIED MODELS OF TELESCOPING GUARDS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED.**
5. Guard shall be a minimum of 15 inches high measured along the vertical stiles.
6. The channel stiles shall each have at least two (2) holes for permanent window mounting. If guards are more than 15" in height, additional mounting holes are required to provide a maximum interval of 18" between mounting holes.

7. Screws used to attach window guards shall be provided by manufacturers and shall be one-way sheet metal screws to minimize the potential for tampering or removal. They shall be a minimum of #10 - 1" long or long enough so that they project 1" beyond the leading edge of the U channel of the vertical stiles.
8. Manufacturer's shall supply a rigid metal "L" – shaped stop, to be a minimum of one half of the width of the window track, each leg of which shall measure at least 2" to be installed by two (2) one-way sheet metal screws (also provided), to be installed in the inner track of the bottom window to prevent the bottom sash from being raised more than 4 1/2" top above the top horizontal bar of the window guard. Manufacturers who have received approval for a stop other than the "L" – shaped one herein described, may substitute such approved stop.
9. Coating of guards shall be unleaded. Statement from guard manufacturer required.
10. Coded manufacturer's identification symbol (guard mode #) and Health Dept. Approval number and date of fabrication symbols (month and year) shall be imprinted on one of the end stiles, so located, as to be readily visible when viewed from within the room, when the guard has been installed.
11. Each guard sold by a manufacturer shall be sold with a self-contained envelope or plastic bag containing: 1). installation instructions; 2). an "L" shaped or other approved stop; and 3). specified screws for installation of guard and stop.
12. INSTRUCTIONS FOR SAFE INSTALLATION SHALL BE PROVIDED WITH GUARDS BY MANUFACTURER.

A. Instructions shall specify maximum window width for which the guard is extended and shall contain the following prominently printed wording:

WARNING: USE OF THIS GUARD SPECIFIED MAXIMUM WIDTH IS DANGEROUS AND ILLEGAL!

B. Instructions shall prominently WARN that the guards and stops must be installed ONLY in sound (non-rotting) window tracks.

C. Instructions shall prominently specify: **WINDOW GUARDS MAY NOT BE INSTALLED IN WINDOWS PROVIDING ACCESS TO FIRE ESCAPES.**

D. Instructions shall specify that guards be installed so that the bottom horizontal members are mounted a maximum of 4 ½ inches above the window sill.

E. Instructions shall specify the use of the supplied "L" – shaped top mechanism to be installed with screws provided, or alternative approved stopping device also provided with prescribed screws to limit the opening above the top horizontal bar to 4 inches when the bottom sash is raised.