

Safe Windows

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Projecting Windows

Casement, awning, and jalousie windows are widely used and are functional in application, but they can create hazardous conditions in the open position. Normal human activities near these types of projecting open windows can cause painful injury to the individual who accidentally contacts them. Careful planning of the location of these types of window installations should ensure that, when open, these windows will not project into walkways, stairways, recreational areas, and similar areas of normal traffic and activity.

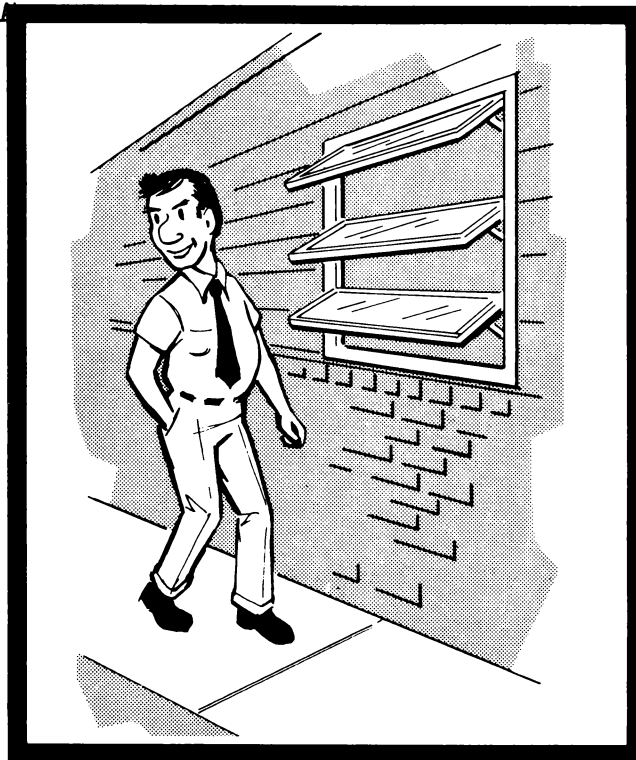
The restriction of the use of these types of windows in areas of probable human contact would eliminate the safety hazard of projecting windows. Practical alternatives may be employed in planning and design, which will provide adequate protective measures by restricting use of the danger areas beneath or near the window. The installation of attractively designed planters, protective screens or walls, and the planting of suitable shrubbery can provide adequate protection against accidental injury caused by open window projections. A dimensional alternative may serve equally well in some instances if the lower extremities of the projecting window are limited to a position above the adjacent walking surface greater than the height of the average male adult. Projecting windows should never be positioned over stairs, however.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

To prevent contact with casement, awning, or jalousie windows in the open position, the following alternatives are recommended.

- Eliminate the placement of casement, awning, and jalousie windows which, when opened, project over walkways, stairs, recreational areas, or other areas of normal traffic flow and activity.
- Restrict the use of projecting windows which open onto stairs.
- Install protective planters beneath projecting windows.
- Install protective screens or walls adjacent to both sides of projecting windows.
- Restrict the height of the lower extremities of projecting windows to the traffic surface below to a minimum of 7 feet.

Projecting windows in traffic areas should be protected by the use of planters, shrubs, or screens which prohibit passage in close proximity.



Unprotected projecting windows present a hazardous situation when located so that they open into traffic areas.



Before building, consult the BOCA code.

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