

## ***fe Bathrooms* ●●●**

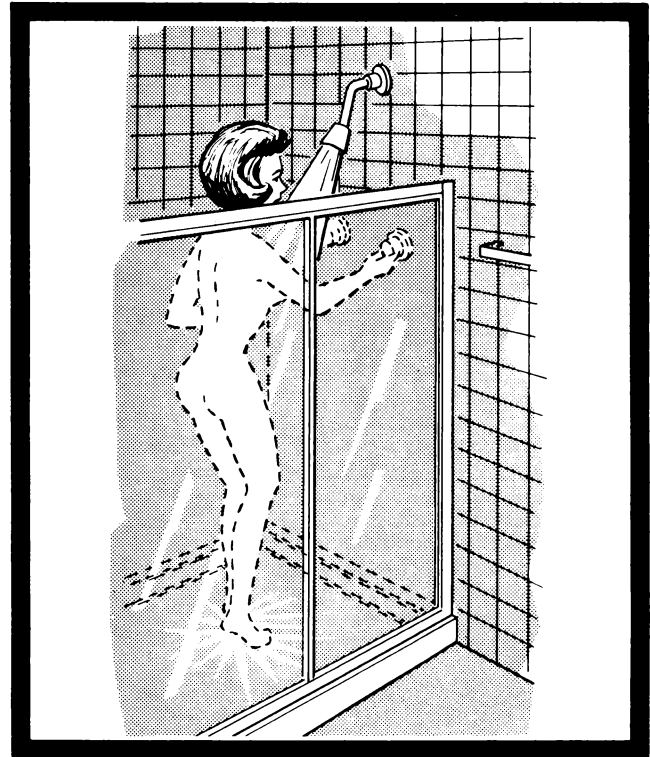
# **Bathtub and Shower Enclosures**

The use of non-safety glass for bathtub and shower enclosures and doors is an extremely hazardous practice. When breakage of non-safety glass occurs, it shatters into a multitude of sharp and jagged pieces. If a person inadvertently strikes against this type of enclosure, either from a fall or by some energetic movement while bathing, he can be seriously injured.

In an already hazardous situation of slippery surfaces, the use of non-safety glass for bathtub and shower enclosures and doors, greatly increases the possibility of serious accidents. (Refer to the section on "Doors.")

The best defense against glass hazards is the use of safety glazing in all bathtub and shower enclosures and doors.

A type of enclosure door which has a locking type latch may prevent or delay an exit or entry in cases of emergency. Therefore, when a latching device is required, a friction type should be utilized.



**Properly positioned controls in shower stalls allow the user to operate them conveniently and safely in the standing position.**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**To prevent serious injury associated with bathtub and shower enclosures, the following recommendations are made.**

- **Safety glazing shall be used in all glass bathtub and shower enclosures and doors.**
- **Locking type latches shall not be used on bathtub and shower doors.**

**Before building, consult the BOCA code.**

Extension Division • Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University • MI-163 • July 1976

Prepared by Helen L. Wells, Housing Specialist

Originally prepared for the Office of Research and Technology, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development,  
"A Design Guide for Home Safety" HUD-RT-17 January 1972

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. W. E. Skelton, Dean, Extension Division, Cooperative Extension Service, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061.

The Virginia Cooperative Extension Service by law and purpose is dedicated to serve all people on an equal and nondiscriminatory basis.  
An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer