

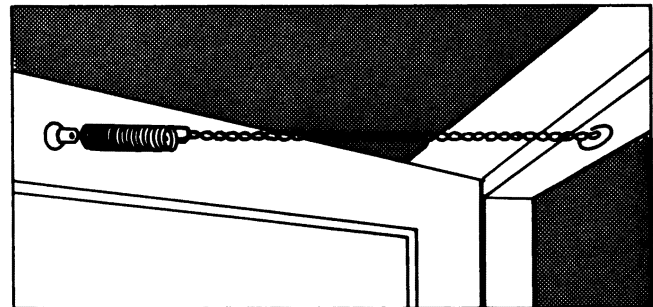
APR 21 1978

Door Closure Devices & Door Stops

BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA

Door return devices which utilize chains or sliding mechanisms with springs may prove hazardous to the user. Doors equipped with these devices, if opened quickly, may rebound toward the closed position, striking the victim in the process. This is particularly dangerous in the case of a glazed door that is not equipped with safety glazing. Preferred devices include hydraulically actuated hardware which provides closure at a controlled rate.

Rigid door-stop devices attached to the lower end of the door or to the baseboard of the adjacent wall can be the cause of painful ankle injuries. Only flexible door stops should be used in residential housing. Door stops should ideally be attached to the surface against which the door opens. If choice or convenience dictates attaching the door stops to the door, it should be positioned near the top of the door.

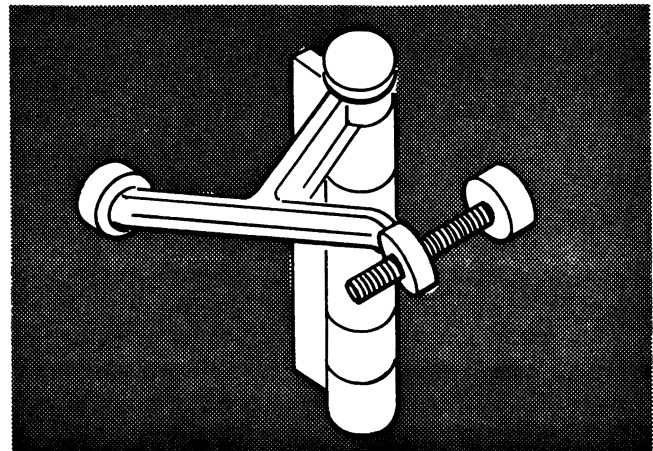


Examples of hazardous door stops and closure devices.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

To reduce injury frequency and severity in accidents related to door closure devices and door stops, the following safety measures are recommended:

- Use of chains or spring-actuated door stop and closure devices shall be avoided. The use of hydraulically-actuated devices will accomplish the same service, allowing a controlled rate of closure without rebound and annoying noise.
- Use of rigid door stops on doors and wall baseboard shall be avoided. The use of any kind of door stop at the base of the door itself should be avoided.



Example of a safe, adjustable, hinge-mounted door stop.

Before building, consult the BOCA code.

Extension Division • Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University • MI-189 • March 1978

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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. R. Van Dresser, Dean, Extension Division, Cooperative Extension Service, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061.

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