



Child Safety

March 2014

Child Safety has always been a priority at Apple Blinds and we have voluntarily applied all child safety recommendations over the last number of years. We know the devastation a child injury or death can reap and we must all apply the highest standards in ensuring we avoid any such occurrence.

Legislation is now been enacted Europe-wide (EN 13120) which prescribes how we as an industry deal with blind chains and loops. It is quite onerous and as manufacturers and installers it holds us accountable if an accident occurs.

From the 31st of March 2014 Apple Blinds will comply with all elements of this legislation.

The principle changes are

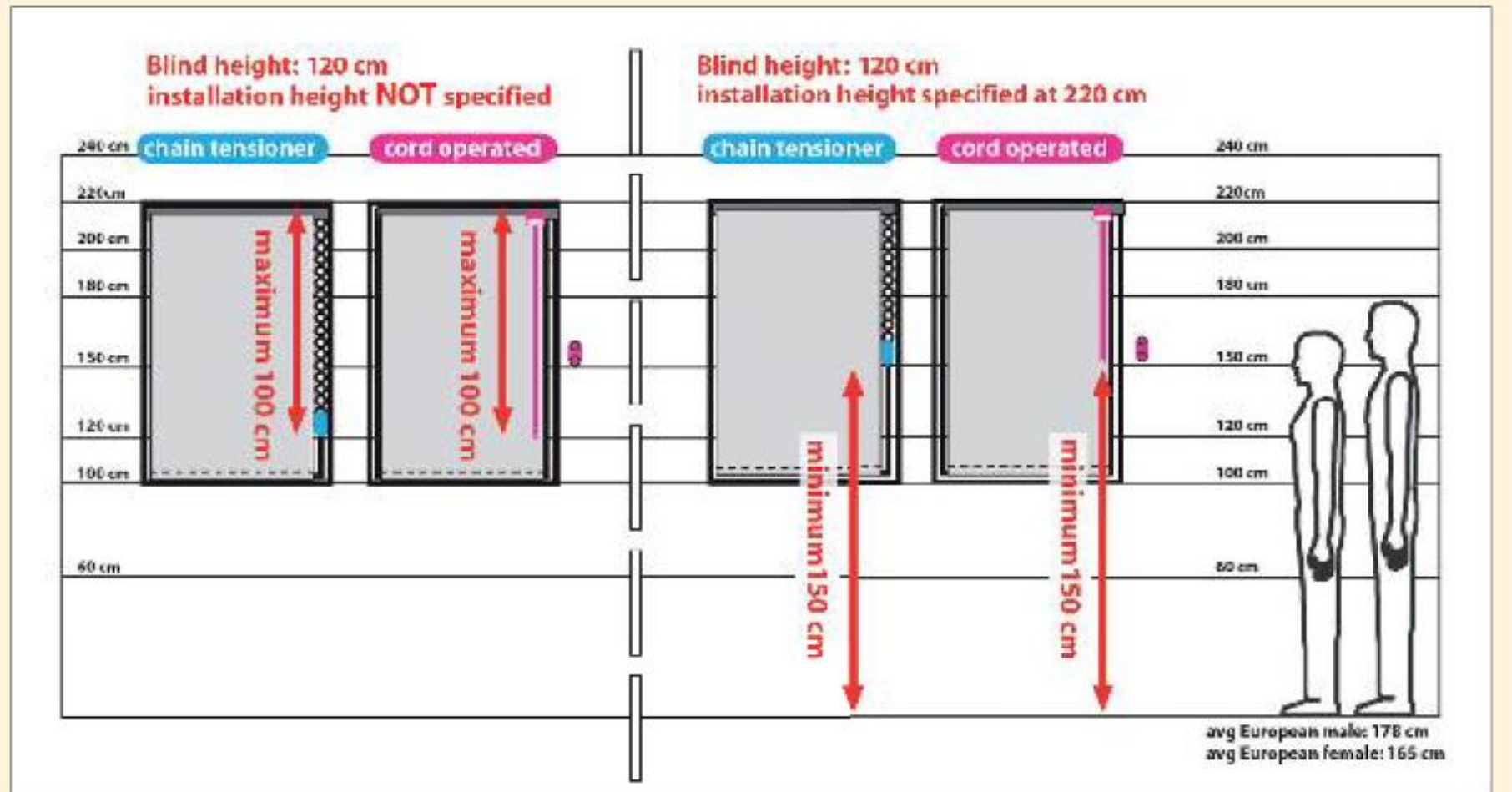
1. That a fixed loop or cord must be fitted with a cord tidy, fitted at a minimum of 1.5m from the floor.
2. Breakaway connectors are acceptable as long as they are 0.6m from the floor.
3. Cords (eg Venetian) must have breakaway connectors (to prevent fixed loops). Cords will also need a cleat to secure the cord tail, and again be a min 1.5m from the ground.
4. For these reasons a fixing height must be stated with every blind measurement with the preferred operation type if applicable (e.g. Fixed loop/Breakaway). If fixing height not specified the chain length will be limited to 750mm. Our computer system is presently being upgraded to apply these changes.
5. Mandatory warning labels, stickers, instructions, safety devices etc will now accompany every blind. Warning tags must be left on every blind **and** on the safety devices.
6. It is not possible for a customer to decline a safety device, it **MUST** be fitted. It is therefore imperative that sales personnel inform customer of child safety issues and any safety devices that must be fitted.
7. Vertical chain length will be an issue and we recommend the wand option. Verticals with cord & chain will now be supplied with a white plastic endless loop as standard with a double cord connector.
8. This legislation is not applicable where a blind is 'Intended to be installed in a premises where children 0-14months are **NOT** likely to have access or be present' eg in offices, factories etc. In this case the surveyor must conduct their own risk assessment and satisfy themselves that the location does not cause a risk to children. If instructed in this case we can supply longer controls etc.



General Advice

- At point of Sale, advise customer of the risks posed by unrestrained cords, loops etc to young children. Young children can be strangled by loops in pull cords, chains and inner cords that operate blinds. They can also wrap them around their necks.
- To avoid strangulation and entanglement, keep cords out of reach of children
- Move beds, cots and furniture away from windows with blind cords/chains.
- Do not tie cords together
- Make sure cords do not twist and create a loop.
- Install and use safety devices according to the installation instructions.
- Leave warning labels on product and safety device.

The picture below illustrates the difference between an order **without** installation height specified and **with** installation height specified.



CONTROL TYPE

HAZARDS

OPERATING LOOPS

Examples:
 Roller (endless chain)
 Vertical Blinds
 Monocommand VB
 Vertical Blinds
 Pleated / honeycomb

PULL CORDS

Examples:
 Metal venetian
 Wood venetian
 Pleated
 Woven wood
 Pleated / honeycomb

INNER CORDS

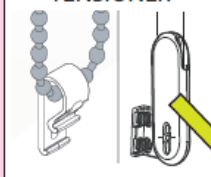
Examples:
 Metal venetian
 Wood venetian
 Pleated blinds
 Roman blinds

SOLUTIONS

BREAK AWAY SYSTEM



FIXED TENSIONER



1 cord
(smart cord)

NO
DEVICE
REQUIRED

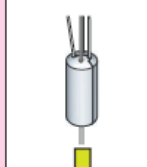
2 cords

use
anti-tangle
or break
away system



2+ cords

use break
away system



5+ cords*

Knot cords but
connector to
be no more
than 50mm
from cord lock
when blind
fully lowered

supply with a cord accumulation device (cleat)
prewound onto the blind

requires a cord stop on
lift cord to prevent
inner cords from being
pulled through to form
a loop.
Cord connector fitted
within 50 mm from
cord-lock will prevent
this.

*and no suitable breakaway connector available

RESTRICTIONS ON CONTROL LENGTH

CONTROL LENGTH

installation
height
NOT KNOWN

2/3 of blind
drop

installation height
KNOWN

distance from
floor to bottom of
control must be at
least 0.6 m

CONTROL LENGTH

installation height
NOT KNOWN

blinds up to 2.5m drop:
1m maximum

blinds over 2.5m drop:
drop +/- 1.5m

installation height
KNOWN

distance from floor to
bottom of control must
be at least 1.5 m

cord accumulation device
(cleat) must hold all cord
when blind is completely
raised



		Fixing Height Unknown		Fixing Height Known	Safety Device					Warning Information					
		Drop less than 2.5m	Drop greater than 2.5m		Cord/Chain Length	Cord/Chain Tidy	Double Cord/Chain Tidy	Breakaway Chain Connectors	Breakaway Cord Connector	Cord Cleat	General Warning Tag on Product	Warning Tag on Safety Device	Warning Label on Packaging	Fitting Instructions	Manufacturers ID on Product
Roller	Spring	pull less than 220mm	pull less than 220mm	pull less than 220mm	Child Safe					n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Fixed Loop	750mm	Drop minus 1.5m*	Floor to Chain > 1.5m*	√					√	√	√	√	√	
	Breakaway Connector	2/3 Drop*	2/3 Drop*	Floor to Chain > 0.6m*			√			√	√	√	√	√	√
	Perfect Fit	n/a	n/a	n/a	Child Safe					n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Motorised	n/a	n/a	n/a	Child Safe					n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Vertical	Wand	n/a	n/a	n/a	Child Safe					n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Cord & Chain	750mm	Drop minus 1.5m*	Floor to chain > 1.5m*		√				√	√	√	√	√	
	Motorised	n/a	n/a	n/a	Child Safe					n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Roman	Fixed Loop	750mm	Drop minus 1.5m*	Floor to chain > 1.5m*	√					√	√	√	√	√	
	Motorised	n/a	n/a	n/a	Child Safe					n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Panel	Wand	n/a	n/a	n/a	Child Safe					n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Cord Control	750mm	Drop minus 1.5m*	Floor to chain > 1.5m*	√					√	√	√	√	√	
Pleated	Perfect Fit	n/a	n/a	n/a	Child Safe					n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Skylight	n/a	n/a	n/a	Child Safe					n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Freehanging	750mm	Drop minus 1.5m*	Floor to Cord > 1.5m*				√	√x2	√	√	√	√	√	
	Type 2 (Tensioned)	n/a	n/a	n/a	Child Safe					n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Motorised	n/a	n/a	n/a	Child Safe					n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Woodweave**	Roman freehanging	750mm	Drop minus 1.5m*	Floor to Cord > 1.5m*				√	√x2	√	√	√	√	√	
	Skylight	n/a	n/a	n/a	Child Safe					n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Vision	Tensioned	750mm	Drop minus 1.5m*	Floor to chain > 1.5m*	√					√	√	√	√	√	
	Breakaway	not available	not available	Floor to Chain > 0.6m*			√			√	√	√	√	√	
	Motorised	n/a	n/a	n/a	Child Safe					n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Venetian	Perfect Fit	n/a	n/a	n/a	Child Safe					n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Wood	750mm	Drop minus 1.5m*	Floor to chain > 1.5m*				√	√x3	√	√	√	√	√	
	Aluminium	750mm	Drop minus 1.5m*	Floor to chain > 1.5m*				√	x2/x3	√	√	√	√	√	
	Motorised	n/a	n/a	n/a	Child Safe					n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

n/a not applicable

* chains/cords will be rounded down to chain lengths of 500, 750, 1000 & 1250mm

** Woodweave rollup option discontinued

Roller Blinds

- Spring
- Perfect Fit

- Sidewinder
 - Height Known
 - Fixed Loop
 - Breakaway Connector

 - Height Unknown
 - Fixed Loop
 - Breakaway Connector

Child Safe
Child Safe

Floor to Chain > 1.5m*

Floor to Chain > 0.6m*

750mm (or drop -1.5m if blind longer than 2.5m)

2/3 of drop*

- Fixed Loops will be provided with a chain tidy
- Where Breakaway Connectors supplied chain tidy not required
- *chains to be rounded down to 500,750 &1000 mm long loops

Vertical Blinds

– Wand Operated

Child Safe

– Cord & Chain

- Height Known Floor to Chain > 1.5m*
 - Height Unknown 750mm (or drop -1.5m if blind longer than 2.5m)
 - Chain will be white endless plastic chain as standard.
 - Metal chain +€2.5 retail.
 - Double Chain connector supplied
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- *chains and cords to be rounded down to 500,750 &1000 mm long loops



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Roman Blinds

Endless Loops Only (no Breakaway connectors).

Chain Tidy must be installed

Cord Lift breakaway fitted to rear of blind

Height Known

Floor to Chain > 1.5m

Height Unknown

750mm (or drop -1.5m if blind longer than 2.5m)

Pleated

- Perfect Fit
- Skylight

Child Safe

Child Safe

- Freehanging

Height Known

Floor to Chain > 1.5m

Height Unknown

750mm (or drop -1.5m if blind longer than 2.5m)

A breakaway cord connector will be installed on every blind

2 cord cleats will be provided per blind so that the full extent of the cord can be secured

- Woodweave

- Skylight

Child Safe

- Roll Up Freehanging Discontinued

- Roman Freehanging

Height Known

Floor to Chain > 1.5m

Height Unknown

750mm (or drop -1.5m if blind longer than 2.5m)

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