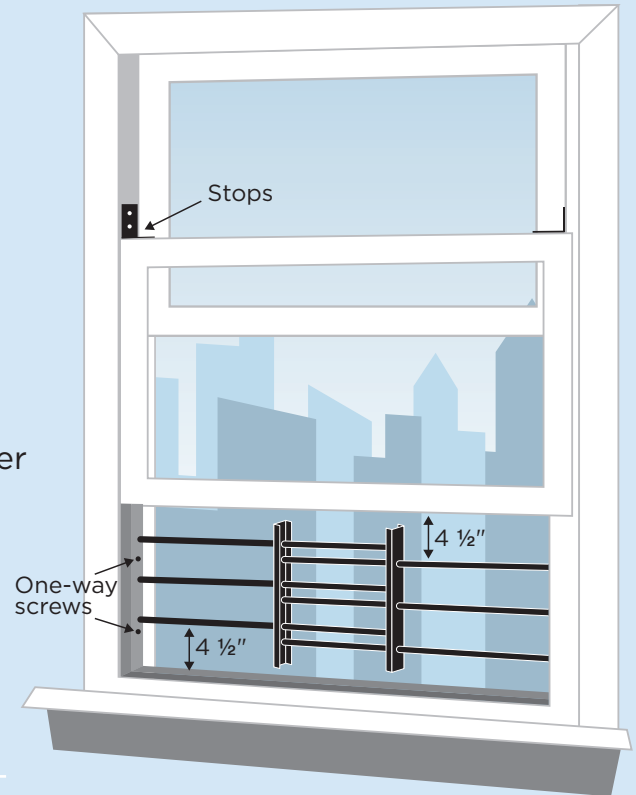


# Are Your Window Guards Installed Safely?

In buildings with three or more apartments, building owners must install New York City Health Department-approved window guards if a child age 10 years or younger lives in the apartment, or if a tenant or occupant requests window guards for any reason. All window types, including sliding windows with screens, should have window guards or limiting devices. Window screens are **not** a substitute for window guards.

## Window guards or limiting devices must:

- Be installed in all windows of the apartment, except for windows leading to fire escapes or used for emergency escapes, or in windows where air conditioner units are permanently and safely installed.
- Be secured and permanently installed.
- Prevent windows from opening more than 4 1/2 inches in any direction. There should never be more than 4 1/2 inches of open unguarded space. Use a measurement tool to check.
- Be able to withstand 150 pounds of weight.
- Have a New York City Health Department-approval number.



## As a tenant, you must:

- Notify your building owner in writing by completing the *Annual Notice* each year if a child age 10 or younger lives in your apartment or if, for any reason, you want window guards installed in your apartment or in the building common areas.
- Provide access to your home and allow window guards to be installed where required. Window guards must not be removed or modified by tenants after installation. You cannot refuse installation of window guards if you have a child age 10 or younger living in your apartment.

If you do not have window guards or they are not installed properly, call **311**.

For more information, visit [nyc.gov/health](https://nyc.gov/health) and search for **window guards**, or email [windowfallprevention@health.nyc.gov](mailto:windowfallprevention@health.nyc.gov).