Making blinds safe is simple and cheap to achieve.

ACT NOW to safeguard your child and stop another preventable death.

BBSA
BRITISH BLIND & SHUTTER ASSOCIATION

make it safe

Always consult a BBSA member

They will give you the best possible advice on the most appropriate choice of blinds, and the best ways to make them safer. They will also be pleased to give you further information about types of window blinds that are specially designed to be operated without cords.

Find your local member by visiting www.bbsa.org.uk

The advice provided by the BBSA has been actively supported by the Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT) & The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents(RoSPA).

Go to: www.makeitsafe.org.uk to view:

- Independent advice on making blinds safe
- Searchable database of approved suppliers
- Images of safety items

Further guidance is also available at: www.windowblindsafety.ie/

Safeguarding children.... *it's everyone's business*

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Blind cords can kill children

Looped blind and window cords are dangerous. They can strangle a child and have led to the deaths of children.

Act now by ensuring that all cords are kept securely out of reach from babies and children.

For further safety advice contact:
Hertfordshire Trading Standards
on **01707 292439**

Visit **www.rospa.com**
for your free **'Make it Safe'** pack

HERTFORDSHIRE
safeguardingchildren
BOARD

working together to help to keep your children safe.

RoSPA
The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents

Window Blind Cord Safety Advice

Window or door blind cords and chains can pose a real risk for babies and children. Two young children have already tragically died in Hertfordshire in the last six months as a result of blind cord strangulation and many more children across the UK have been seriously injured.

PLEASE ACT NOW to help keep your children safe and prevent any further tragedies.

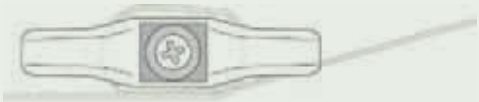
You can take a number of practical and simple precautions to significantly reduce the risk.

Take action now to secure any looped cords or chains within your home by following this advice and using one of the many safety devices available for you to buy. This safety advice also applies to all organisations and community buildings where parents, carers or workers with babies and young children or vulnerable adults live or visit.

Here are a few examples of the devices available:

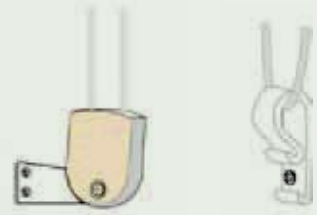
Cleat

This can be securely fixed to an adjacent wall, out of the reach of young children. Remember to always wrap the cord tightly around the cleat after every time you use the blind.



Cord/Chain Tensioner or Tidy

The following devices should be secured to an adjacent wall and the cord/chains are held permanently within the device.



Chain-break connector or Safety tassel

These will break apart when excessive force is applied to the operating chain or cord.

When choosing new blinds for homes or places where children or vulnerable people live or visit always look for a blind that does not contain cords or has concealed cords.

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working together to help to keep your children safe.

Make sure all cords and chains are secured out of reach.

Do not place your child's cot, bed, highchair or playpen near to a window blind.

Do not put sofas, chairs, table, shelves or bookcases near to a window blind, as children love to climb.

Messages from Hertfordshire parents who have tragically lost their children.

"You can't be with children every minute, but you CAN make blinds safe. We lost our son - protect your child"

Parents of Arthur

"We don't want other families to suffer the way we have"

Parents of Emily

"Persons in charge of children are ultimately responsible for following the safety instructions provided by the manufacturer."
EN Standard 13120

Further guidance & advice for parents, carers & professionals is now available.
Please visit: www.rospa.com for more information on how you can keep your child safe from blind cord dangers or obtain a free 'Make it Safe' pack. Important guidance on the responsibilities of manufacturers and suppliers of blinds is also available at www.bbsa.org.uk