



Child Safety



The 2014 changes to the child safety requirements of BS EN 13120:2009+A1:2014 place an obligation on all in the industry to sell and install compliant products. The requirements affect all homes, all public buildings and any other premises where babies and young children aged 0 - 42 months are likely to have access or be present.

Stevens (Scotland) Ltd fully supports these changes to the European standards. Our internal blinds are fully compliant with the new standards for internal window blinds and we have a range of tested safety devices for making existing blinds safer. Most of these safety devices are unobtrusive, inexpensive and simple to install. We also have a range of “safe by design” blinds, which have features especially tailored to make them perfectly safe for anywhere where children live and play.

Stevens (Scotland) Ltd are members of the British Blind and Shutter Association, a trade association that have helped spearhead the drive towards safer window blinds in the UK. Their Make It Safe campaign is supported and endorsed by The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) and the Child Accident Prevent Trust (CAPT) and referenced by many other organisations. The Make It Safe website offers a lot of advice and information about child safety in relation to window blinds, and can be found at www.makeitsafe.org.uk

SAFETY CODES AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

We will only supply blinds, which conform to the child safety requirements of BS EN 13120 (“Safety Codes”). However the Safety Codes do not apply to blinds which are to be installed in commercial buildings where it is unlikely that a young child will come in contact with them. Should any order you place with us be for such blinds and as a result, you require that they vary in any material aspect or particular respect from blinds which comply with the Safety Codes then the following, must apply:

You must stipulate clearly that this is the case at the time of order - and also make clear your particular requirements for the blinds as a result.

You must confirm that the blinds are to be installed in a commercial building where as far as you can reasonably ascertain, having carried out your own risk assessment, and that as such a child is unlikely to be exposed to the blinds once installed.

The assessment as to whether a child is likely to come into contact with the blind(s) is solely for your determination. We will not accept any responsibility or liability for the same whatsoever.

If you should fail to provide the confirmation and details required pursuant to the above then the blinds we supply shall comply with the safety codes. You shall not be entitled to reject the same nor raise any requisition in relation to the same in the event that the blind(s) do not subsequently meet the purpose for which you intended.

Customers should be fully aware of the child safety requirements of the standard and we advise that you take your own legal advice.



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OPERATING METHODS & CONTROL LENGTHS

All control drops are calculated based on the requirements of the legislation unless we are specifically told that the blinds are to be installed in commercial buildings where it is unlikely that a young child will come in contact with them.

The following table explains briefly how we will calculate control drops on the various types of controls used on our products. Please note the important difference that supplying the fitting height will have on the allowable control drops. Fitting heights should always be supplied where available.

Restricted operation Length

The maximum operation length according to the child safety requirements of BS EN 13120 is shown below.

Operation Type	Child Safety Solution	Blind Height	Installation height Specified	Maximum Operation Length
Loop Operated	Break away connector		yes	Installation height -600mm
			no	2/3 product height
	Chain Tidy	Blind > 2.5m	yes	Installation height -1500mm
			no	Blind height -1500mm
		Blind < 2.5m	yes	Installation height -1500mm
			no	1000mm
Cord Operated	Cleat	Blind > 2.5m	yes	Installation height -1500mm
			no	Blind height -1500mm
		Blind < 2.5m	yes	Installation height -1500mm
			no	1000mm

Safety Notices

On all products, except those that are safe by design, a safety warning notice will be attached to the product and to the packaging for that product. If the product also requires a non-integral safety device to be compliant this device will also have separate notice attached.