

# FITTING & USING CHILD SAFETY DEVICES

**Although not an obvious hazard, window coverings can be potentially dangerous to young children – in particular the cords, tapes and chains that are used to operate them.**

We do everything we can to make sure your chosen product is safe for your child. As a minimum, all of our blinds and curtains meet the European Standard BS EN 13120 for both performance and safety. Beyond this, safety is at the forefront of our minds right through the design process as we strive to make products that are not only stylish and high-quality, but also safe.

The information in this leaflet gives guidance for fitting the provided child safety devices. Please read it carefully and keep it safe for future reference. Videos showing how to fit and reconnect child safety devices are available at [www.makeitchildsafe.co.uk](http://www.makeitchildsafe.co.uk).

## Our child safety devices

Safety hook	A hook fitted to an adjacent wall which chains and cords are hooked through to keep taut and out of reach of children.
Tension spring	A device to keep cords under constant tension.
Chain break connectors	A connector that allows the chain to break apart if any reasonable force is placed in the loop.
Inner cord breakaway clip	A clip placed on the inner cords of your blind to allow the cord to break away from the blind if any reasonable weight is placed between the cords and the blind.
Inner cord stops	A cord stop fitted to the inner cords of your blind to stop a loop being created should any reasonable weight be placed on them.
Breakaway safety tassel	Similar to a breakaway consolidator, a breakaway tassel will group together multiple cords and will breakaway if any reasonable force is placed on it.
Breakaway consolidator	When multiple cords are needed to control your blind, the breakaway consolidator groups together the cords leaving just one to control the blind. The consolidator will also breakaway if any reasonable force is placed on it.
Safety cleat	When fitted to an adjacent wall, cords can be wound around the cleat to keep them tidy and out of reach of children.

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The table below highlights which devices are necessary for different blind types.

		Safety hook	Tension spring	Chain break connector	Inner cord breakaway clip	Inner cord stops	Breakaway safety tassel	Breakaway consolidator	Safety cleat
BLIND TYPE	Pleated							✓	✓
	Sidewinder Roller	✓		✓					
	Deluxe Roman (sidewinder)	✓			✓				
	Standard Roman (corded)				✓	✓	✓		✓
	Metal Venetian					✓	✓		✓
	Wood Venetian							✓	✓
	Faux Wood							✓	✓
	Vertical	✓							
	Sloping Vertical	✓	✓						
	Corded curtains	✓	✓						

There are things that you can do to reduce risk in your home. Here are our tips:

- Move beds, cots and furniture away from the window.
- Do not let cords or chains hang loose. Make sure they are kept out of reach of children at all times.
- Do not tie loose cords and chains together.
- Check the condition of all safety devices if not used regularly and replace if the device is faulty. Replacements can be ordered on [www.makeitchildsafe.co.uk](http://www.makeitchildsafe.co.uk).

## FITTING & USING CHILD SAFETY DEVICES

### Fitting the safety hook

SIDEWINDER ROLLER, VERTICAL, DELUXE ROMAN (SIDEWINDER) AND CORDED CURTAINS

To fit the safety hook, put the control chain or cord (or both for Verticals) into the hook at the maximum distance from the control mechanism. Ensure that the chain or cord is taut and that the hook is at the bottom of the loop. Screw the hook to a wall adjacent to the blind. If the hook has a slot, ensure the screw is placed at the bottom of the slot and that the chain is taut before screwing in place. This will prevent the hook from moving up and down during application and ensure that the correct tension is maintained. The chain will be held permanently taut and under constant tension by the safety hook.

The safety hook provided can be used on cords with a diameter of 1.7 - 2.2mm, as well as metal and plastic chains with a 6mm or 12mm pitch chain and a ball diameter of 4.45mm. One cord and one chain can be used together in a safety hook.

Safety hooks can be used instead of chain break connectors on sidewinder roller blinds.



### Fitting the chain break connector

SIDEWINDER ROLLER

The chain break connector allows the chain to break apart if any reasonable force is placed in the loop. The connector only works when in the vertical position, for this reason, two connectors must be fitted.

To fit the chain break connectors, join the control chain by placing the last ball of each end of the chain into the larger holes on each side of the connector. If your chain is a continuous loop, close your blind fully and cut the loop on the side nearest the window at the top of the blind.

Next, measure 20cm down the chain and cut it at the nearest ball. Then join the chain with a second chain break connector in the same way as above.

If any reasonable weight is placed on the loop the chain break connector will break apart. To reconnect, check that the connector is not damaged and then insert each end of the ball chain into the connector as described above.

Chain break connectors can only be used with Roller blinds with a 6mm or 12mm pitch chain with a ball diameter of 4.45mm. Only use the supplied chain with the device.



### Fitting the tension spring

SLOPING VERTICAL AND CORDED CURTAINS

A tension spring should be used on vertical blinds that slope downwards. The spring will keep the cord under constant tension and will prevent the louvres from falling back down the slope of the headrail when the blind is fully open, while still allowing smooth operation of the blind.

The tension spring may also be used instead of a safety hook on corded curtains.

To fit the tension spring, put the control cord through the gap in the neck of the pulley. Position the tension spring at the maximum distance from the control mechanism, make sure it's at maximum tension and that the pulley is at the bottom of the loop. Fit the tension spring to the wall or window frame ensuring that cord remains under tension. The tension spring can be used on cords with a diameter of 1.7 - 2.2mm.

You should also secure the tilt chain in a safety hook (see above).



### Fitting the inner cord breakaway clip

ROMANS

The inner cord breakaway clip is attached to the cord and the tape on the reverse of the blind. The clip will breakaway in two parts if any reasonable weight is placed on the cord on the back of the blind.



One inner cord breakaway clip should be used on each cord on each panel – ensuring that the blind can move up and down freely.

The clip should be attached to the horizontal tape on the back of the blind. Slide the foot of the back of the clip onto the loop on the tape, then thread the cord through the hole.

If the clip breaks apart, push the small barrel section (which will remain on the cord) into the front of the other part of the clip (which will remain on the tape).

The inner cord breakaway clip provided can only be used on cord with a diameter of 1.2 and 1.3mm.

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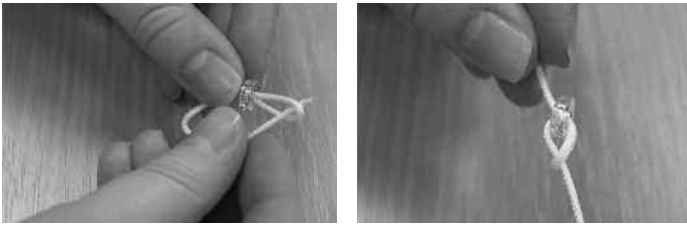
### Fitting inner cord stops

#### METAL VENETIANS AND STANDARD ROMAN (CORDED)

One inner cord stop should be located on each raise and lower cord. All inner cord stops should be located as close to the headrail as possible, and not more than 5cm from the headrail when the blind is fully closed.

To install, make a small loop with a with the raise and lower cord near the head rail, then slide the cord stop over the loop end. Slip the free end of the raise and lower cord through the loop and loosely knot the cord stop onto the raise and lower cord. Tighten the knot to secure the cord below the head rail and limit the movement of inner cords.

The inner cord stops provided can be used on cords with a diameter of 0.8 - 1.5mm.



### Fitting the breakaway safety tassel

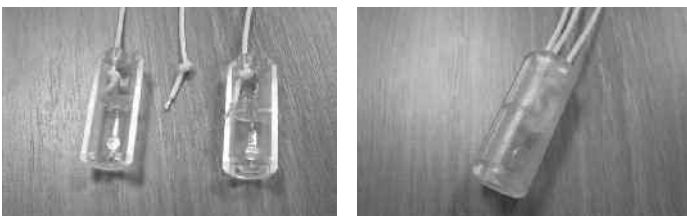
#### METAL VENETIANS AND STANDARD ROMAN (CORDED)

The safety tassel should not be installed on cords more than 1m in length when the blind is down, and should only be used in conjunction with inner cord stops.

To install the safety tassel, ensure that all of the raise and lower cords are the same length, then insert one of the cords through the hole in the top (the rounded end) of one of the sections of the tassel and secure with a knot. Repeat this with a different piece of cord in the second section of the tassel. When knotting the ends of the cords, ensure that they are all knotted at the same distance from the end of the cord.

Any other free cords should be individually knotted and placed into one of the holes that are formed when the two halves of the tassel are put together. A single or double knot should be sufficient to hold the tassel in place.

Breakaway safety tassels can be used on cords with a diameter of 0.7 - 1.6mm.



### Fitting the breakaway consolidator

#### PLEATED, WOOD AND FAUX WOOD VENETIANS

Breakaway consolidators are designed for blinds with cords of 1.3 - 1.6 mm in diameter in the top, and cords of 2.1 - 2.3 mm in diameter in the bottom. Pleated blind breakaway consolidators can be used with cords of 0.7 - 1.6mm in diameter in the top and 2.1 - 2.3mm in diameter in the bottom.

To install the consolidator on Wood and Faux Wood Venetians take the half with two holes in and thread the thicker cord up into the hole in the middle. Then thread the same cord downwards through the hole in the other half of the consolidator. Finally, thread the cord upwards through the remaining hole in the other half and tie a knot as close to the end as possible.

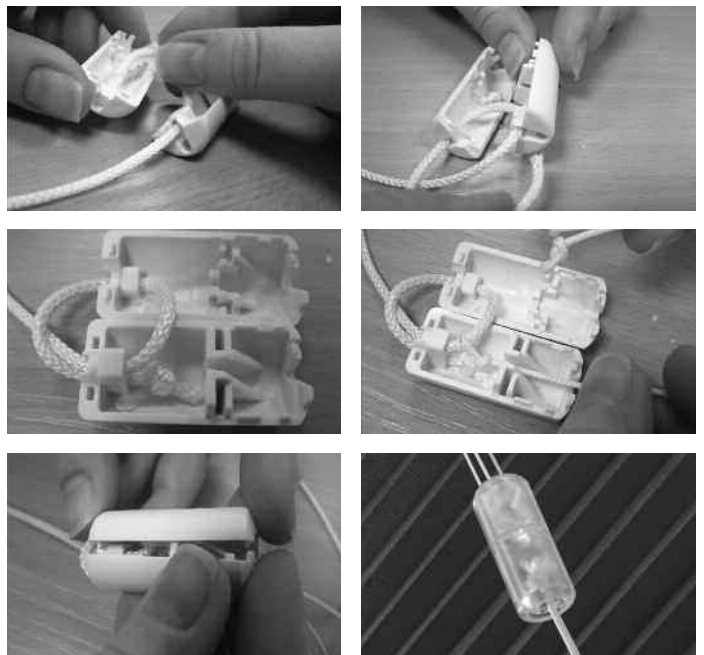
Next, make sure that the raise and lower cords are all the same length and knot them individually (making sure the knots are all the same distance from the ends). Insert the knotted ends into one of the grooves at the top of the consolidator, ensure that the knots are secured below the central panel and secure the two halves together.

If any reasonable weight is placed on the cords the breakaway safety consolidator will break apart. To reconnect the consolidator, check that it is not damaged, then re-insert the free cords as described above and place the sections together.

If any slack cording appears above the consolidator, lower the blind so that it is straight and raise it again.

Breakaway consolidators on pleated blinds are fitted in the same way as breakaway safety tassels, except the thicker cord needs to be inserted in the bottom of one half of the consolidator and knotted. Due to the thickness of the cord, when tying knots in the pleated blind cord fold the it back to double its thickness and tie in the usual manner. Ensure that the knot is pulled tight and that the loop is as small as possible. Trim any excess cord and repeat for all cords in the blind, ensuring that they are knotted at the same length.

All breakaway consolidators must be installed no more than 5cm from the head rail when the blind is closed.



Venetians consolidator

Pleated consolidator

## FITTING & USING CHILD SAFETY DEVICES

### Fitting the safety cleat

STANDARD ROMAN (CORDED), PLEATED, METAL, WOOD AND FAUX WOOD VENETIANS

Blinds that require a safety cleat must not be installed less than 1.5m from the floor. Safety cleats keep cords taut and out of reach of children – always wrap the cord around the cleat.

To fit your safety cleat, fix it to the wall with two screws in a position that's out of reach of children. Install it as close to the head rail as possible, ensuring that it is at least 1.5m from the floor.

There is a limit to the amount of cord that can be wrapped around a cleat:

No more than:

- 2m of single cord with a diameter 2.2mm or less should be accumulated.
- 1m of single cord with a diameter 2.2mm should be accumulated in conjunction with any other cords.

A maximum of:

- 6 cords with a diameter of 1.5mm or less can be accumulated.
- 7 cords with a diameter of 1mm or less can be accumulated.
- Only cords up to 2.2mm in diameter can be accumulated.

If more than one cleat is required for the complete amount of cord to be wrapped around, ensure that they are all positioned a maximum of 20cm apart and all are 1.5m from the floor.



Only use the devices and cords/chains provided with your blind.

Devices are under continuous development. For this reason, some photographs may not be an exact representation of the provided device, although their function will be the same.

### WARNING

Window coverings can pose a danger to small children. Please be aware that swallowing small parts can cause internal asphyxiation. Looped or low hanging cords, chains or tapes can also cause strangulation.

Using safety devices reduces the risk of strangulation, but does not eliminate it. The persons in charge of children are ultimately responsible for their safety.

Young children can be strangled by loops in pull cords, chains, tapes and inner cords that operate the product. To avoid strangulation and entanglement, keep cords out of the reach of young children. Cords may become wrapped around a child's neck. Move beds, cots and furniture away from window covering cords. Do not tie cords together. Make sure cords do not twist and create a loop.

Please read these instructions carefully before installing and using the device(s). Children can be strangled if any device is not installed correctly. All safety devices must be correctly installed for the protection from strangulation of young children and the proper use of the blind. Keep the instructions for future reference.