



CHILD SAFETY

GUIDANCED DOCUMENT

Introduction

This guidance document has been compiled to assist you with the technical and legal requirements of the new Child Safety laws applicable in Europe under the new directive BS EN 13120.

The industry had been informed previously that the new child safety standards would be published at the end of March. We as many of you will have learnt recently that the standards were actually published by the British Standards Institute on February 28th 2014.

The standards are applicable to 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.

There is normally a period of grace given with the introduction of new legislation, however BS EN 13120 is being monitored by UK Trading Standards. The advice issued from the Department for Business Innovation and Skills is "although a 6 month lead in period is not written in stone it is what is generally accepted, and any action by Trading Standards will be proportionate" – Trading Standards National Product Safety Focus Group have noted "whilst the group thought that a transitional period would be sensible it did not prescribe any duration for such a period."

The best advice from all parties including the British Blinds and Shutters Association is to be compliant with the new legislation as soon as possible.

We have tried to simplify this guide by providing you with a concise and accurate summary of what we as a supplier, and you as a retailer or blinds specialist will be required by law to implement.

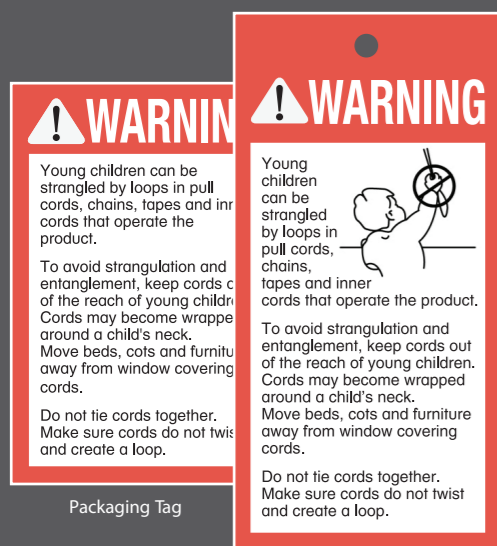
Please read this document to ensure you are aware of the various aspects of the law relating to child safety and we are certain as trading partners together we will implement a much needed solution to risks caused by internal blinds in the home.

British Blinds and Shutter Association (BBSA)

As an accredited member of the British Blinds and Shutter Association (BBSA) we have been closely involved in the Make It Safe Campaign and the changes required in the way internal blinds are made, sold and professionally installed. The new regulations, outlined in the directive BS EN 13120, has now been implemented and it will place responsibility on all suppliers and professional installers to:

1. Provide safety devices to reduce the risk of any cords or chains forming a hazardous loop.
2. Test all safety critical items of internal blinds
3. Test blinds using safety devices
4. Observe maximum cord and chain lengths
5. Provide specific warnings and instructions
6. Provide information on packaging and point of sale
7. Fit safety devices when professionally installing blinds

All internal blinds supplied by blindtex blinds are now compliant with the child safety requirements of BS EN 13120.



Packaging Tag

General Warning Tag

Children can strangle if this safety device is not installed. Always use this device to keep cords or chains out of reach of children.

Non-Integral Device Tag

Responsibilities

Blinds supplied by Blindtex will be compliant with the new legislation by 1st April 2014 and will be forwarded to an external testing site for certification. A copy of the compliance certificates will be available on our website as soon as we receive them.

As a supplier we will be responsible to provide the product together with the necessary warning tags, packaging and safety devices and to ensure the cord and chain lengths prescribed by the law are adhered to.

Our products will have appropriate fitting instructions which, if followed correctly, will ensure you or your customer will install the blind according to the law.

As a retailer you will be responsible to ensure any point of sale is child safe and appropriate warning tags are displayed correctly. You will also have the responsibility of advising, to the end customer, the relevant child safe blind options and ensure your end customer is aware that any child safety devices provided are installed as per our fitting instructions.

It is your responsibility to propose products at the time of sale that will comply to the child safe law. If a window is situated close to the ground certain products may not be suitable. (See chain Height Section).

Note: If a customer refuses the fitting of a safety device despite the advice given via our fitting instructions and your fitter, the blind should not be fitted. This scenario can be prevented if correct advice is given to the consumer at the time of the sales process.

Warning Tags

The following warning tags will be attached to the blind at the time of manufacture. There could be up to five tags applied to any blind.

General Warning Tag:

Applied to every blind

Non-Integral Device Tag:

This will be attached to a chain safety retainer for example.

Packaging Tag:

This will be attached to the plastic protective packaging on every blind.

Name/Trademark of Supplier Tag:

Every blind headrail has a small sticker which will identify the trade supplier of the blind, the order number and the date of the order. This will help trace the manufacturer of the blind should the need arise. Our products will have your name as the supplier, the link between you as the supplier and us as the manufacturer is the order number.



Accessible Inner Cords Tag:

This would be applied to venetian blinds typically where the cords accumulating from the cord lock could be pulled through the form a loop.

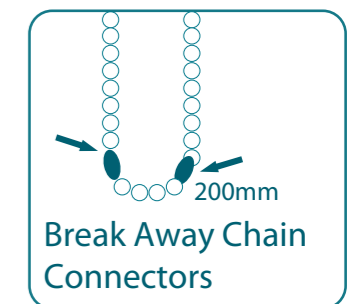
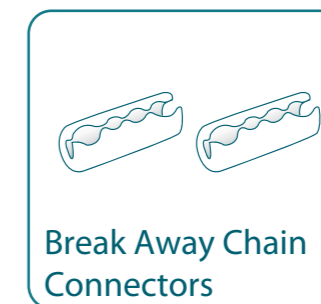
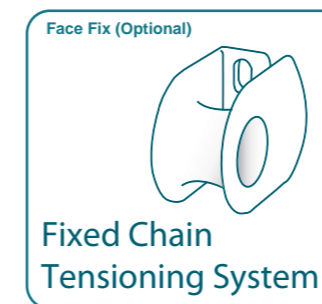
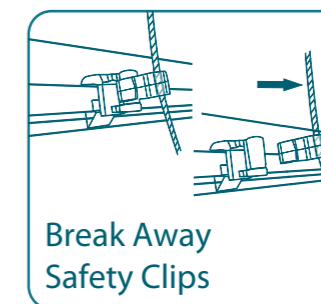
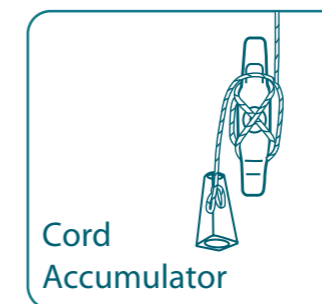
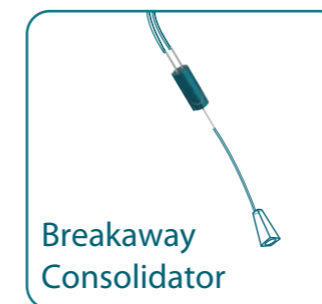
Don't forget the fitting instructions supplied in every blind also forms part of the mandatory safety information.

Chain & Cord Lengths Mandated

The length of cord and chains assembled in blinds will be required to comply with the mandatory child safety requirements. As a manufacturer of blinds we will not have any alternative but to provide the exact length of cord as prescribed by the law.

Please refer to the chart below which will show you the length of cord/chain that will be provided with internal blinds ordered. In order to ensure that the correct length of chain/cord is supplied we would recommend that you provide us with accurate information on the required window drop for the blind together with a fixing height distance between the top of the blind where the brackets will be installed and the floor.

Child Safety Devices Used On Our Blinds



Safe By Design

Blinds that are safe by design are not required to have child safety warnings attached.

Motorised blinds or blinds with no pull cords or chains would be a typical example of such blinds. We currently offer vertical/panel blinds with wand control that are safe by design, alternatively spring loaded roller blinds are also classed as safe.

Blindtex will be introducing more blinds that are Safe By Design over the coming months. Information on these products will be communicated to you in due course.

Chain & Cord Lengths Mandated

	Fitting Guide	System	Non Integral Device	Non Tangle Tasells	Chain/Cord Length (Based on Fitting Height not Blind Drop)			Warning Tags Required					
					Fitting Height Known	Fitting Height Unknown Blind Drop Less than or equal to 2500mm	Fitting Height Unknown Blind Drop greater than 2500mm	General Warning Tag	Non-Integral Warning Tag	Packing Warning Tag	Accumulation Device Tag	Child Safety Instructions	
	Ref:												
Roman Blinds	Blindtex Roman Blinds - Cord Lock System	001	Cords	Breakaway Consolidator/Cord Accumulator/Break Away Safety Clips	N/A	Floor To Cord > 1500mm	Max 1000mm	Blind Drop Less 1500mm	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Blindtex Roman Blinds - Deluxe System	002	Side Chain (Continuous)	Tensioning Side Fix (Default) Face Fix Optional/ Break Away Safety Clips	N/A	Floor To Chain > 1500mm	Max 1000mm	Blind Drop Less 1500mm	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
	Blindtex Roman Blinds - Cassette System 32 - Chain	003	Side Chain (Breakaway)	2 Breakaway Links 200mm Apart/Break Away Safety Clips	N/A	Floor To Chain > 600mm	Max 2/3 Of Blind Drop	Max 2/3 Of Blind Drop	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Roller Blinds	Blindtex Roller Blinds - 32mm Chain System	004	Side Chain (Breakaway)	2 Breakaway Links 200mm Apart	N/A	Floor To Chain > 600mm	Max 2/3 Of Blind Drop	Max 2/3 Of Blind Drop	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
	Blindtex Roller Blinds - 45mm Chain System	004	Side Chain (Breakaway)	2 Breakaway Links 200mm Apart	N/A	Floor To Chain > 600mm	Max 2/3 Of Blind Drop	Max 2/3 Of Blind Drop	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
	Blindtex Roller Blinds - Cassette System 32 - Chain	005	Side Chain (Breakaway)	2 Breakaway Links 200mm Apart	N/A	Floor To Chain > 600mm	Max 2/3 Of Blind Drop	Max 2/3 Of Blind Drop	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
	Blindtex Roller Blinds - 32mm Spring System	006	Spring	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	No	No	No	Yes
	Blindtex Roller Blinds - 45mm Spring System	006	Spring	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	No	No	No	Yes
	Blindtex Roller Blinds - Cassette System 32 - Spring	014	Spring	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	No	No	No	Yes
Duplex & Sheer Horizon Blinds	Blindtex Duplex Blinds - Cassette System 32 - Chain	007	Side Chain (Continuous)	Tensioning Side Fix (Default) Face Fix Optional	N/A	Floor To Chain > 1500mm	Max 1000mm	Blind Drop Less 1500mm	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
	Blindtex Duplex Blinds - Cassette System 32 - Spring	015	Spring	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	No	No	No	Yes
	Blindtex Sheer Horizon Blinds - Cassette System 32 - Chain	008	Side Chain (Breakaway)	2 Breakaway Links 200mm Apart	N/A	Floor To Chain > 600mm	Max 2/3 Of Blind Drop	Max 2/3 Of Blind Drop	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
	Blindtex Sheer Horizon Blinds - Cassette System 32 - Spring	018	Spring	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	No	No	No	Yes

Chain & Cord Lengths Mandated

	Fitting Guide	System	Non Integral Device	Non Tangle Tasells	Chain/Cord Length (Based on Fitting Height not Blind Drop)			Warning Tags Required					
					Fitting Height Known	Fitting Height Unknown Blind Drop Less than or equal to 2500mm	Fitting Height Unknown Blind Drop greater than 2500mm	General Warning Tag	Non-Integral Warning Tag	Packing Warning Tag	Accumulation Device Tag	Child Safety Instructions	
Vertical Blinds	Blindtex Vertical Blinds - Slimline Cord & Chain System	009	Side Chain (Continuous) & Cord	Tensioning Side Fix (Default) Face Fix Optional	N/A	Floor To Chain > 1500mm	Max 1000mm	Blind Drop Less 1500mm	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
	Blindtex Vertical Blinds - Slimline Wand System	010	Wand Operated	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	No	No	No	Yes
	Blindtex Vertical Blinds - Vogue Cord & Chain System	009	Side Chain (Continuous) & Cord	Tensioning Side Fix (Default) Face Fix Optional	N/A	Floor To Chain > 1500mm	Max 1000mm	Blind Drop Less 1500mm	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
	Blindtex Vertical Blinds - Vogue Wand System	010	Wand Operated	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	No	No	No	Yes
Aluminium Venetian Blinds	Blindtex Aluminium Venetian Blind - 15mm System	011	Lift Cords & Wand Tilter	Breakaway Consolidator/Cord Accumulator	N/A	Floor To Cord > 1500mm	Max 1000mm	Blind Drop Less 1500mm	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Blindtex Aluminium Venetian Blind - 25mm System	011	Lift Cords & Wand Tilter	Breakaway Consolidator/Cord Accumulator	N/A	Floor To Cord > 1500mm	Max 1000mm	Blind Drop Less 1500mm	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Blindtex Aluminium Venetian Blind - 50mm System	012	Lift Cords & Cord Tilter	Breakaway Consolidator/Cord Accumulator	On Tilt Cords	Floor To Cord > 1500mm	Max 1000mm	Blind Drop Less 1500mm	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wood, Faux Wood & Wood Weave Blinds	Blindtex Wood Venetian Blinds - 50mm System (M2M)	013	Lift Cords & Cord Tilter	Breakaway Consolidator/Cord Accumulator	On Tilt Cords	Floor To Cord > 1500mm	Max 1000mm	Blind Drop Less 1500mm	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Blindtex Customised Wood Blinds - 25/35/50mm System	019	Lift Cords & Cord Tilter	Breakaway Consolidator/Cord Accumulator	On Tilt Cords	Floor To Cord > 1500mm	Max 1000mm	Blind Drop Less 1500mm	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Blindtex Faux Wood Blinds - 25/38/63mm System	020	Lift Cords & Cord Tilter	Breakaway Consolidator/Cord Accumulator	On Tilt Cords	Floor To Cord > 1500mm	Max 1000mm	Blind Drop Less 1500mm	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Blindtex Wood Weave Blinds - Roman & Rollup System	016	Cords	Breakaway Consolidator/Cord Accumulator/Break Away Safety Clips	N/A	Floor To Cord > 1500mm	Max 1000mm	Blind Drop Less 1500mm	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Panel & Motorised Blinds	Blindtex Panel Blinds - 3, 4 & 5 Track Wand System	017	Wand Operated	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	No	No	No	No	Yes
	Blindtex Motorised Blinds - Various	N/A	Electric	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	No	No	No	No	Yes

Documentation

To ensure your customer, whether it is a business or end user, understands that you have installed a blind that is child safe we would recommend that they agree and sign the form below. This should be retained in your files for future reference. These templates should be copied on to your letter headed paper.

Note: The satisfaction note differs based on end consumer or a business to business sale.

Child Safety Compliance Acknowledgement (Business To Consumer)

I acknowledge and confirm that;

1. I am aware that my blind(s) contain a safety device which is designed to help to prevent accidental strangulation of young children
2. It has been explained to me how this safety device(s) work(s)
3. I have been given written instructions relating to the use of my blind(s)
4. The warning notices have been left on the blind(s)
5. To the extent that I have had opportunity to inspect and operate them, the blind(s) and safety device(s) work to my satisfaction.

Nothing in this Child Safety Compliance Acknowledgement shall affect my statutory rights as a consumer.

Your name (CAPITALS):

Signature:..... **Date:**

Customer unable (or unwilling) to sign this satisfaction note. However, I confirm that the blind(s) have been manufactured and installed in compliance with the child safety requirements of EN 13120.

Your name (CAPITALS):

Signature:..... **Date:**

Child Safety Compliance Acknowledgement (Business to Business)

I acknowledge and confirm that;

1. I am aware that my blind(s) contain a safety device which is designed to help to prevent accidental strangulation of young children
2. It has been explained to me how this safety device(s) work(s)
3. I have been given written instructions relating to the use of my blind(s)
4. The warning notices have been left on the blind(s)
5. To the extent that I have had opportunity to inspect and operate them, the blind(s) and safety device(s) work to my satisfaction.

Your name (CAPITALS):

Signature:..... **Date:**

Customer unable (or unwilling) to sign this satisfaction note. However, I confirm that the blind(s) have been manufactured and installed in compliance with the child safety requirements of EN 13120.

Your name (CAPITALS):

Signature:..... **Date:**

Point of Sale

Blindtex will provide you with information and leaflets that will outline the hazards of chains and cords and internal blinds that could prove dangerous if the appropriate measures to ensure child safety is not executed. This information should be displayed at the point of sale. It is the retailers responsibility to ensure such material is available for the consumer at the point of sale. Display blinds within the retail environment must be child safe and have the appropriate non integrals devices fitted and warning tags attached to ensure blinds displayed do not create a hazard for children 0-42 months old. Please contact the sales office if you require any safety devices or tags for existing displays.



Summary

We trust this guidance document has been useful and it will help you understand the requirements of the new child safety regulations. As you can see the majority of the requirements will be delivered to you as standard as part of our compliance requirements as a manufacturer and supplier.

We hope you will use this document to train your staff and customers to educate them on child safety laws on internal blinds.

We would appreciate your feedback on this document and any suggestions on helping us make this more user friendly.

Kind Regards - Child SafetyTeam