

Safety Glazing

Building Regulation Guidance Note

Modern trends toward glazed doors and panels have led to an increase in accidents in the home. Regulations have been introduced to help alleviate this problem.

The following information gives guidance on how this may be achieved.

- **Glazing with which people come into contact**

Where people come into contact with glazing whilst in or about buildings that glazing shall:

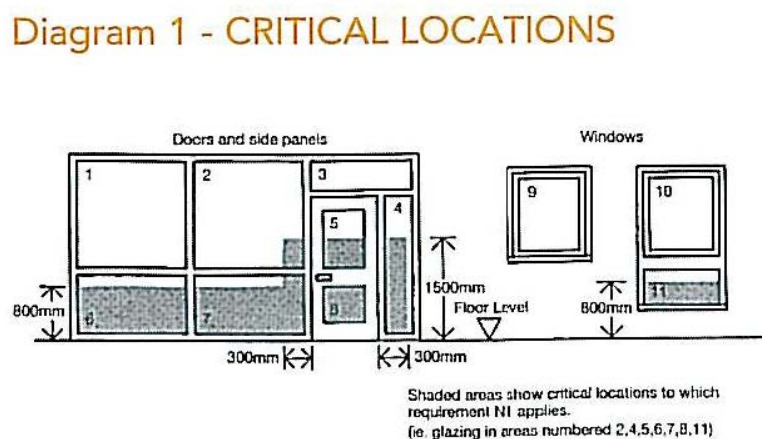
- a. If broken on impact, break in such a way so as not to cause injury; or
- b. Resist impact without breaking; or
- c. Be shielded or protected from impact.

- **Critical Locations**

The following locations may be considered critical in terms of safety:

- a. Between finished floor level and 800mm above floor level in internal walls and partitions:
- b. Between finished floor level and 1500mm above that level in a door or side panel close to either edge of the door (**see Diagram 1**).

Diagram 1 – Critical Locations



- **Reducing the Risk**

Glazing in critical locations should either:

- a. Break safely;
- b. Be robust, or in small panels (**see Diagrams 2 and 3**);
- c. Be permanently protected (**see Diagram 4**)

Diagram 2 – Annealed Glass Thickness/Dimension Limits

Diagram 2 - ANNEALED GLASS THICKNESS/DIMENSION LIMITS

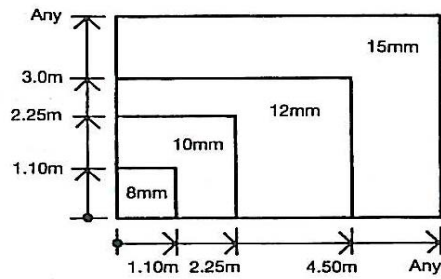


Diagram 3 – Dimensions and Areas of Small Panes

Diagram 3 - DIMENSIONS AND AREAS OF SMALL PANES

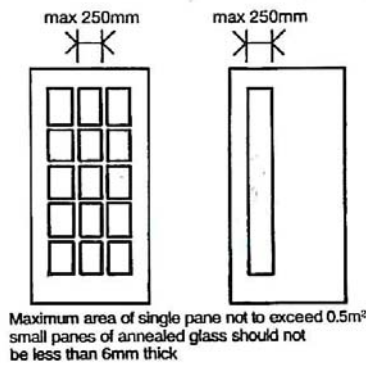
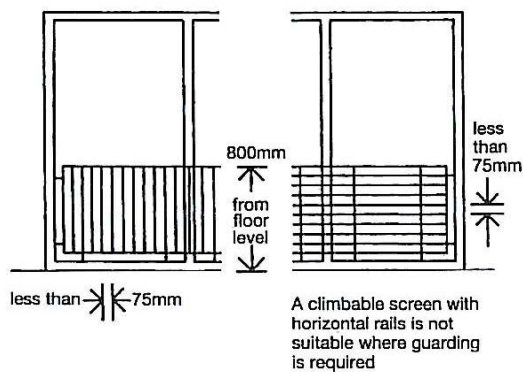


Diagram 4 – Permanent Screen Protection

Diagram 4 - PERMANENT SCREEN PROTECTION



- **Safe Breakage**

Safe breakage is based upon an impact test which requires the result be limited to:

- a. A small clear opening; or
- b. Disintegration with small detached particles; or
- c. Breakage resulting in separate pieces that are not sharp or pointed.

- **Glazing in Small Panes**

Small panes may be a single pane or one of a number contained within glazing bars.

Small panes should have a maximum width of 250mm and an area not exceeding 0.5m².

Annealed glass in a small pane should not be less than 6mm nominal in thickness (**see Diagram 3**).

- **Permanent Screen Protection**

If as part of a design solution glazing in a critical location is installed behind permanent screen protection, the screen should:

- a. Prevent a sphere of 75mm from coming into contact with the glazing;
- b. Be robust; and
- c. If it is intended to protect glazing that forms part of protection from falling, be difficult to climb.

- **PLEASE NOTE**

In view of the technical nature of the Regulations and for the need to protect Health and Safety, professional advice should be sought when dealing with these issues.

Translation Information

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