

## SAFETY GLAZING – INFORMATIONAL HANDOUT

- All materials and the installation of all materials must comply with the Minnesota State Building Code and the manufacturers' installation specifications for each product.

**Warning:** The inspector may issue an order to remove materials to verify compliance with the MN State Building Code and manufacturer's installation requirements.

If a re-inspection is required, a re-inspection fee will apply. The permit holder (the signing applicant) or the permit holder's representative must meet the inspector at the site to provide access. The re-inspection will not be conducted if the re-inspection fee is not paid.

**Note:** The State of Minnesota requires that all residential building contractors, remodelers, roofers, plumbers, and electricians obtain a state license unless they qualify for a specific exemption from the licensing requirements. Any person claiming an exemption must provide a copy of a Certificate of Exemption from the Department of Labor & Industry to the Municipality before a permit can be issued. To determine whether a particular contractor is required to be licensed or to check on the licensing status of individual contractors, please call the Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry at 651-284-5065 or toll free 1-800-342-5354.

**Note:** For specific code requirements, please contact the Building Inspection Department at 952-442-7520 or 888-446-1801 or e-mail: [info@mnspect.com](mailto:info@mnspect.com).

### PROJECT INFORMATION:

The following is information to assist in the compliance with the requirements of the MN State Building Code.

#### GLAZING IN DOORS:

Safety glazing is required in all fixed and operable panels of:

- Swinging doors
- Sliding doors
- Bi-fold doors

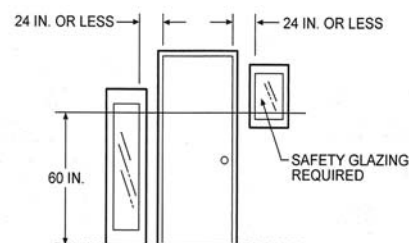
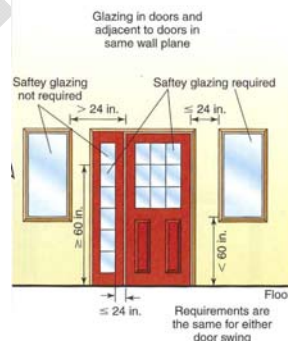
Exceptions:

- Openings in doors through which a 3" sphere cannot pass
- Decorative glazing (i.e. stained glass windows are not required to be safety glazed; however, etched/frosted glass windows meeting any of the previous criteria must be safety glazed)

#### GLAZING ADJACENT TO DOORS:

Safety glazing is required in a fixed or operable panel where:

- It is adjacent to a door,
- Its nearest edge is within 24" of the arc of either vertical edge of the door in the closed position, AND
- Its bottom edge is <60" from the floor.



Exceptions:

1. Decorative glazing.
2. Where there is an intervening wall or other permanent barrier between the door and glazing.
3. Glazing in walls on the latch side of and perpendicular to the plane of the door in a closed position.
4. Where access through the door is to a closet area  $\leq 3'$  in depth.
5. Glazing adjacent to a fixed panel of patio doors.

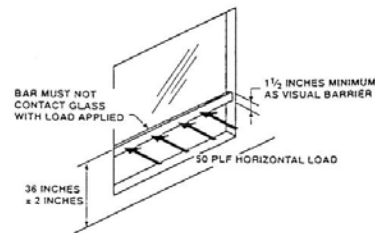
### GLAZING IN WINDOWS:

Safety glazing is required in an individual fixed or operable panel, which meets all the following criteria:

- The exposed area of individual panes is  $>9 \text{ ft}^2$ ,
- Its bottom edge is  $<18"$  above the floor,
- Its top edge is  $>36"$  from floor, AND
- One or more walking surfaces are within  $36"$  horizontally of the glazing.

Exceptions:

1. Decorative glazing.
2. When a horizontal rail is installed on the accessible side(s) of the glazing,  $34\text{--}38"$  above the walking surface (handrail height). (See illustration.)
3. Outboard panes in insulated glass units when the bottom edge is  $\geq 25'$  above grade, roof, walking surface or horizontal surface; or the horizontal surface slope is  $>45^\circ$ .



### GLAZING IN GUARDS AND RAILINGS:

Safety glazing is required in all glazing in guards and railings, including structural baluster panels and nonstructural in-fill panels. If functioning as a guard or railing, it is considered a hazardous location and must be safety glazed.

### GLAZING AND WET SURFACES:

Safety glazing is required in walls, enclosures, or fences containing or facing hot tubs, spas, whirlpools, saunas, steam rooms, bathtubs, showers, and swimming pools (indoor or outdoor), where the bottom edge is  $<60"$  above any standing or walking surface. This applies to all panes in multiple glazing assemblies, as well as to single panes.

Exceptions:

Glazing  $> 60"$  measured horizontally and in a straight line from the water's edge of a bathtub, hot tub, spa, whirlpool, or swimming pool.

### GLAZING ADJACENT TO STAIRS AND RAMPS:

Safety glazing is required where the bottom exposed edge is  $<36"$  above the plane of the adjacent walking surface of stairways, landings between flights of stairs, and ramps.

Exceptions:

1. When a rail is installed.
2. When glazing is  $\geq 36"$ , measured horizontally, from the walking surface.

### GLAZING ADJACENT TO BOTTOM STAIR LANDING:

Safety glazing is required adjacent to the landing at the bottom of a stairway where the glazing is  $<36"$  above the landing and within  $60"$  of the bottom tread.

Exceptions:

1. Glazing is protected by a guard and is  $>18"$  from guard.

