

Window-sill height

Reports of children falling through window openings have increased over the last few years. Therefore, the IBC includes requirements to protect children from falling out of windows. Such operable window protection is only required in Group R-2 and Group R-3 occupancies. Any operable window in an exterior wall that has a sill that is located more than 6 feet above grade or other surface below must be provided with fall protection. This is typically accomplished by locating the height of the window sill a minimum distance above the floor surface.

The lowest part of the clear opening of the window must be a minimum of 36 inches above the finished floor (see Figure 12-4). For windows that are located less than 36 inches above the floor, the glazing must be fixed or restricted from opening to a maximum dimension that will allow a 4-inch sphere to pass through the opening. Window fall prevention devices that comply with ASTM F 2090, or windows that are provided with window openings control devices that comply with Section 1013.8.1, can also be used in lieu of the minimum sill height and opening restrictions. [Ref. 1013.8]

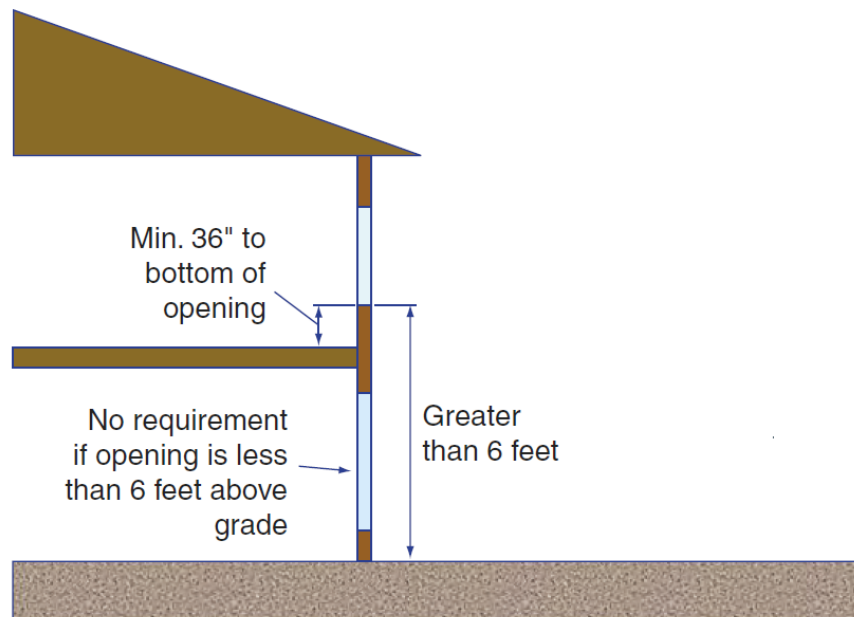


Figure 12-4 Window fall protection requirements