



BULLETIN RB06-017

(Updated 2015 Dec 10)

BEDROOM WINDOWS USED FOR EMERGENCY ESCAPE

Reference: Sentence 9.7.1.2.(1), Sentence 9.7.1.2.(2) and Sentence 9.7.1.2.(3)

Sentence 9.7.1.2.(1) "Except where the suite is sprinklered, each bedroom or combination bedroom shall have at least one outside window or exterior door openable from the inside without the use of keys, tools or special knowledge and without the removal of sashes or hardware. (See **Article 9.5.1.2.** and Appendix A.)"

Sentence 9.7.1.2.(2) "The window referred to in **Sentence (1)** shall

- a) provide an unobstructed opening of not less than 0.35m² in area with no dimension less than 380 mm, and
- b) maintain the required opening during an emergency without the need for additional support. (See **Article 9.7.1.3.** and Appendix A.)"

Sentence 9.7.1.2.(3) "If the window referred to in Sentence (1) is provided with security bars, the security bars shall be openable from the inside without the use of any tools or special knowledge."

Question:

Does the dimension and area given above refer to the size of the entire window opening or the size of the moveable panel?

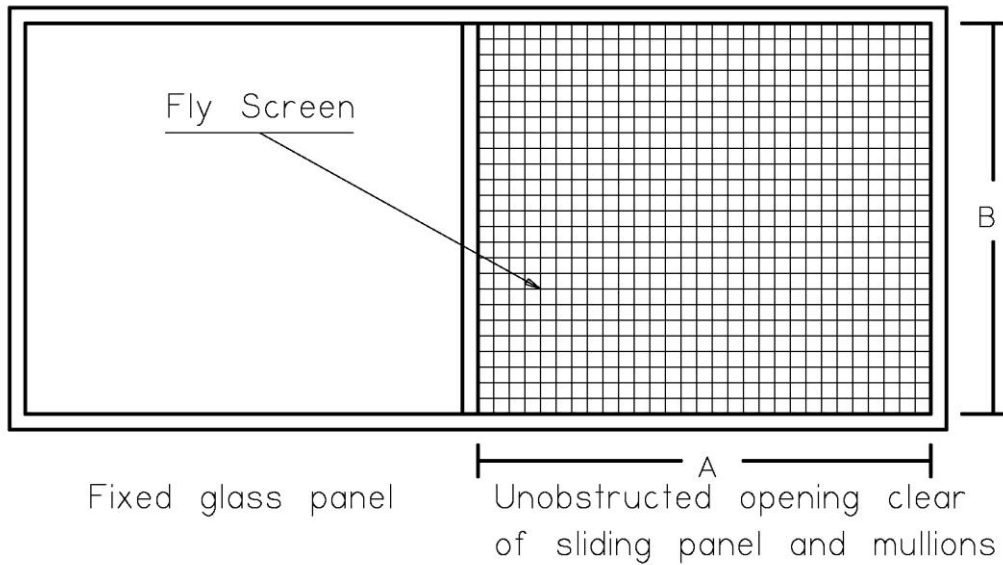
Commentary / Relevant Facts:

It is quite clear from **Sentence (2)** that the key word is "unobstructed." The intent of this requirement is to provide an alternative means of escape from the bedroom in case of an emergency. Therefore any obstructions which cannot be easily and safely removed or broken through are not acceptable within the area and dimensions specified in **Sentence 9.7.1.2.(2)**.

Conclusion:

The sketch below shows the minimum acceptable standard of the window to comply with **Article 9.7.1.2.**

Note: If rolling shutters have been incorporated into the window assembly they must also be easily removable with no special knowledge or tools.



Moveable Panel

- 1) A and/or B to be equal to or greater than 380 mm and
- 2) A x B to be equal to or greater than 0.35 m sq

Chief Building Inspector

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