Safety glazing guidance

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

i Between finished floor level and 800mm above that level in internal walls and partitions (diagram 1).

ii Between finished floor level and 1500mm above that level in a door or in a side panel, close to either edge of the door (diagram 1).

REDUCING THE RISKS

2. Glazing in critical locations should either:

i Break safely, if it breaks (paragraph 3)
ii Be robust or in small panes (paragraph 4)
iii Be permanently protected (by screens and rails).

SAFE BREAKAGE

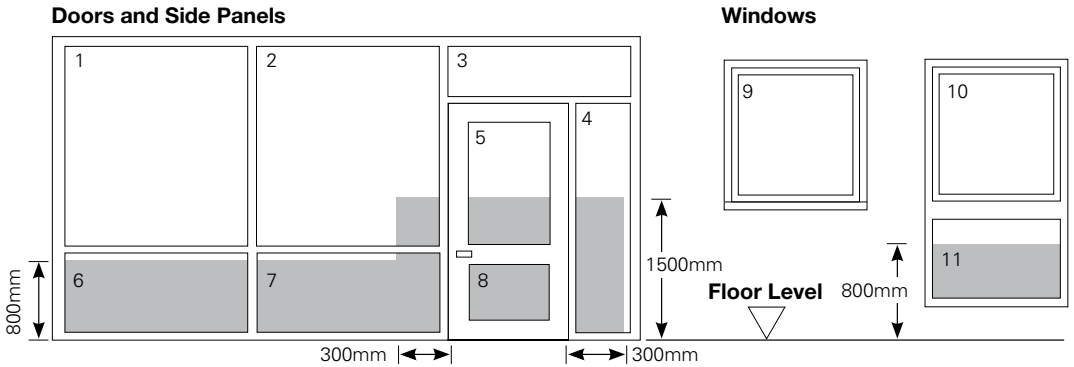
3. Safe breakage which, in practice is concerned with the performance of laminated and toughened glass, is defined in BS 6206: 1981 Specification for impact performance requirements for flat safety glass and safety plastics for use in buildings: clause 5.3. and is based on an impact test which requires the result of the impact be limited to creating:

i A small clear opening only, with a limit to the size of the detached particles, or
ii Disintegration, with small detached particles or
iii Breakage resulting in separate pieces that are not sharp or pointed.

ROBUSTNESS

4. Some glazing materials, such as annealed glass, gain strength through thickness, others such as polycarbonates or glass blocks are inherently strong. Some annealed glass is considered suitable for use in large areas forming fronts to shops, showrooms, offices, factories and public buildings.

CRITICAL LOCATIONS IN INTERNAL & EXTERNAL WALLS



Shaded areas show critical locations to which requirement N1 applies (ie. glazing in areas numbered 2,4,5,6,7,8,11).

This data is provided for general information and to help assess what level of acoustic dampening is required of the glazed unit in the installation. More information can be found in the Building Regulations