

INTERPRETATIVE BULLETIN E-1-78

Attachment of Latches Required to Hold Open Vertically Opening Egress Windows Section 3280.404(b)(4)(iv)

Where a latch is required to hold open a vertically opening egress window for the purpose of emergency escape, it must be attached by a permanent method or a mechanical method that requires a tool not commonly available in the home for removal of the latch. Tools considered commonly available in the home include regular screwdrivers, Phillips screwdrivers, pliers, and wrenches. Acceptable attachment methods include rivets, one-way screw, and other devices that cannot be removed with those or similar tools.

This attachment requirement does not apply if the window will stay open by itself indefinitely until it is closed by some force other than gravity and the forces exerted on the window that it is used for egress.