

**TITLE:** SHARP EDGES  
**VERSION:** V2.1  
**DATE PUBLISHED:** 4/2/21

**DEFINITION:** Physical hazards within the built environment (i.e., human-made structures, features, and facilities) that can lacerate or puncture skin.

**PURPOSE:** None

**NAME VARIANTS:** Unsafe cutting items; Hazardous cutting items

**COMMON MATERIALS:** Metal; Rebar; Glass; Tile (e.g., glass, ceramic)

**COMMON COMPONENTS:** None

**LOCATION:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unit	Throughout the unit
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inside	Normal paths of travel throughout the built environment (e.g., hallways, shared living spaces, shared facilities)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Outside	Normal paths of travel throughout the built environment (e.g., sidewalks, walkways, playgrounds, courtyards)

**MORE INFORMATION:** None

**DEFICIENCY 1:** A sharp edge that can result in a cut or puncture hazard is present.

**LOCATION:**  Unit       Inside       Outside

**DEFICIENCY I — UNIT:** A SHARP EDGE THAT CAN RESULT IN A CUT OR PUNCTURE HAZARD IS PRESENT.

**DEFICIENCY CRITERIA:** A sharp edge that can result in a cut or puncture hazard that is likely to require emergency care (e.g., stitches) is present within the built environment (i.e., human-made structures, features, and facilities).

**HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION:** Severe Non-Life-Threatening      The Severe Non-Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of permanent disability, or serious injury or illness, to a resident; or the physical security or safety of a resident or their property would be seriously compromised.

**CORRECTION TIMEFRAME:** 24 hours

**HCV PASS / FAIL:** Fail

**HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME:** 30 days

**RATIONALE:**

CODE	CATEGORY	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION
R2	Safety	Direct	Resident could be injured because of this condition.	If a sharp edge that can result in a cut or puncture hazard that is likely to require emergency care is present within the unit, then there may be an increased safety risk to the resident, which may result in injury (e.g., laceration, puncture).
M1	Corrective Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect a tenant to report this deficiency, and for facilities management to prioritize a work order response to fix that deficiency.	A resident is likely to notice if a sharp edge that can result in a cut or puncture hazard that is likely to require emergency care is present within the unit and to recognize it is important enough to report it to property management because it may present safety hazards. Property management should be expected to prioritize a work order to remedy this deficiency because it may result safety hazards.

**INSPECTION PROCESS:**

- OBSERVATION:**
- Look throughout the Unit to identify any sharp edge that can result in a cut or puncture hazard.
  - If present, determine if the sharp edge is likely to require emergency care if the resident comes into contact with it.
- REQUEST FOR HELP:** - None
- ACTION:** - None
- More Information:**
- Examples of sharp edges within the Unit include, but are not limited to, broken glass or damaged tile with an exposed edge.

TOOLS OR EQUIPMENT:

REQUIRED: - None

USEFUL: - Flashlight

---

**DEFICIENCY I — INSIDE:** A SHARP EDGE THAT CAN RESULT IN A CUT OR PUNCTURE HAZARD IS PRESENT.

**DEFICIENCY CRITERIA:** A sharp edge that can result in a cut or puncture hazard that is likely to require emergency care (e.g., stitches) is present within the built environment (i.e., human-made structures, features, and facilities).

**HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION:** Severe Non-Life-Threatening      The Severe Non-Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of permanent disability, or serious injury or illness, to a resident; or the physical security or safety of a resident or their property would be seriously compromised.

**CORRECTION TIMEFRAME:** 24 hours

**HCV PASS / FAIL:** Fail

**HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME:** 30 days

**RATIONALE:**

CODE	CATEGORY	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION
R2	Safety	Direct	Resident could be injured because of this condition.	If a sharp edge that can result in a cut or puncture hazard that is likely to require emergency care is present within the Inside area, then there may be an increased safety risk to the resident, which may result in injury (e.g., laceration, puncture).
M2	Routine Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect that this deficiency would be identified through routine daily observations and facilities management would prioritize work orders to fix this deficiency.	Property management would be expected to ensure that staff members understand how to identify the presence of a sharp edge that can result in a cut or puncture hazard that is likely to require emergency care within the Inside area. Management practices would be expected to assure prompt creation and prioritization of a work order to remedy this deficiency because it may result in safety hazards.

**INSPECTION PROCESS:**

- OBSERVATION:**
- Look along the normal paths of travel throughout the built environment (e.g., hallways, shared living spaces, shared facilities) to identify any sharp edge that can result in a cut or puncture hazard.
  - If present, determine if the sharp edge is likely to require emergency care if the resident comes into contact with it.
- REQUEST FOR HELP:** - None
- ACTION:** - None
- More Information:** - Examples of sharp edges in the Inside area include, but are not limited to, broken glass, damaged tile with an exposed edge, or a damaged handrail.

TOOLS OR EQUIPMENT:

REQUIRED: - None

USEFUL: - Flashlight

---

**DEFICIENCY I — OUTSIDE:** A SHARP EDGE THAT CAN RESULT IN A CUT OR PUNCTURE HAZARD IS PRESENT.

**DEFICIENCY CRITERIA:** A sharp edge that can result in a cut or puncture hazard that is likely to require emergency care (e.g., stitches) is present on or adjacent to the built environment (i.e., human-made structures, features, and facilities).

**HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION:** Severe Non-Life-Threatening      The Severe Non-Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of permanent disability, or serious injury or illness, to a resident; or the physical security or safety of a resident or their property would be seriously compromised.

**CORRECTION TIMEFRAME:** 24 hours

**HCV PASS / FAIL:** Fail

**HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME:** 30 days

**RATIONALE:**

CODE	CATEGORY	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION
R2	Safety	Direct	Resident could be injured because of this condition.	If a sharp edge that can result in a cut or puncture hazard that is likely to require emergency care is present in the Outside area, then there may be an increased safety risk to the resident, which may result in injury (e.g., laceration, puncture).
M2	Routine Maintenance	Direct	It is reasonable to expect that this deficiency would be identified through routine daily observations and facilities management would prioritize work orders to fix this deficiency.	Property management would be expected to ensure that staff members understand how to identify the presence of a sharp edge that can result in a cut or puncture hazard that is likely to require emergency care in the Outside area. Management practices would be expected to assure prompt creation and prioritization of a work order to remedy this deficiency because it may result in safety hazards.

**INSPECTION PROCESS:**

**OBSERVATION:**

- Look along the normal paths of travel throughout the built environment (e.g., sidewalks, walkways, playgrounds, courtyards) to identify any sharp edge that can result in a cut or puncture hazard.
- If present, determine if the sharp edge is likely to require emergency care if the resident comes into contact with it.

**REQUEST FOR HELP:** - None

**ACTION:** - None

**More Information:** - Examples of sharp edges in the Outside area include, but are not limited to, broken glass or protruding rebar.

TOOLS OR EQUIPMENT:

REQUIRED: - None

USEFUL: - Flashlight

---

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

**TITLE:** SHARP EDGES  
**VERSION:** V2.1  
**DATE PUBLISHED:** 4/2/21

FIELD	CHANGE	VERSION	DATE
Definition	Revised definition	V2.1	2020-04-02
Most Common Materials	Revised materials	V2.1	2020-04-02
Location	Revised inspectable locations	V2.1	2020-04-02
Deficiency I		V2.1	2020-04-02
Title	Unit, Inside, & Outside: Revised title		
Deficiency Criteria	Unit, Inside, & Outside: Deficiency criteria		
Health and Safety Determination	Unit, Inside, & Outside: Revised determination and description		
HCV – Correction Timeframe	Unit, Inside, & Outside: Revised time frame		
Rationale	Unit, Inside, & Outside: Revised rationale categories, types, and explanations; added standardized codes and descriptions		
Inspection Process	Unit, Inside, & Outside: Revised Observation, Request for Help, Action, and More Information		
Deficiency I		V2.0	2020-10-28
Title	Copyedits		
Deficiency Criteria	Copyedits		
Health and Safety Determination	Added standardized description		
HCV Pass / Fail	Field added; response input as “Fail”		
Rationale	Copyedits		
Overall Formatting	Complete rework of document format and layout	V1.3	2020-07-31
Purpose	Field added	V1.3	2020-07-31
More Information	Field added	V1.3	2020-07-31
Deficiency I	Separated by inspectable locations – Unit, Inside, and Outside	V1.3	2020-07-31



Title	Added inspectable locations		
Health and Safety Determination	Revised to “Life-Threatening” determination; added standardized description		
Correction Timeframe	Field added; response input as “24 hours”		
HCV – Correction Timeframe	Field added; response input as “24 hours”		
Rationale	Revised rationale explanations; added standardized codes and descriptions		
Inspection Process	Revised observation, request for help, action, and more information		
Tools or Equipment	Field added to deficiency		
<b>Rationales</b>	<b>Updated following in-house review and public comment</b>	<b>VI-2</b>	<b>2019-12-26</b>
<b>Health and Safety Determinations</b>	<b>Updated following in-house review and public comment</b>	<b>VI-2</b>	<b>2019-12-26</b>