

Your FDW's Safety Is Paramount

Ensure that your FDW always works safely.

In December 2016, a 25-year-old Indonesian foreign domestic worker (FDW) fell to her death from the kitchen window of her employer's flat in Punggol. She was only two weeks into her employment.

Falling from height is one of the main risks FDWs face when performing household chores, especially when cleaning windows and hanging out the laundry. At the one-day Settling-In Programme (SIP), FDWs are taught the safety "Do's and Don'ts" when cleaning windows and hanging laundry.

MOM would like to seek employers' help, to remind your FDW to always perform her chores safely and to do what was taught at the SIP.

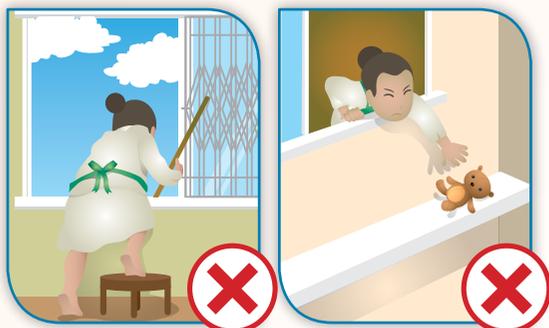
Ensure that your FDW practises these safety guidelines

If you live in a high rise apartment and require your FDW to clean windows or hang the laundry outside, do ensure the following:



When cleaning the exterior of the window pane:

- ✓ You or an adult must be **physically present** to supervise your FDW.
- ✓ There must be **window grilles** installed and they must be **locked at all times during cleaning**. She is not allowed to clean the windows if there are no window grilles or without supervision.



- ✗ Your FDW should not **climb onto the ledge or lean out of the window** to clean the exterior of the window pane or retrieve items on the ledge.
- ✗ Your FDW **must not** stand on chairs, stools or any raised platform when cleaning windows or hanging laundry to avoid losing her balance and falling.
- ✗ When hanging laundry, your FDW should not overload the pole with too many clothes to avoid losing her balance and falling out the window.

Employers can be fined up to \$10,000 and/or imprisoned up to 12 months, if they fail to ensure the work safety of their FDWs. They may even be barred from employing an FDW in future.



“It is always better to be safe than sorry.”