

# Window Strike Prevention Checklist

Print this page and work through it once per window. [birdsbuzz.com](http://birdsbuzz.com)

## 1. Make the glass visible (apply to the OUTSIDE of the glass)

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- ☐ Mark the full pane with decals, dots, or strips. One lone decal is not enough; birds fly around it.
- ☐ Follow the 2x4 rule: vertical stripes no more than 4 inches apart, horizontal stripes no more than 2 inches apart.
- ☐ Use a 2x2 inch grid (2 inches both ways) around feeders and where hummingbirds fly.
- ☐ DIY options: tempera paint dots, strips of tape, or soap. Reapply tempera paint after heavy rain.

## 2. Soften the glass

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- ☐ Hang an insect screen or netting 2 to 3 inches in front of the glass, pulled tight.
- ☐ Try Zen curtains (Acopian BirdSavers): paracord strips hung 3.5 to 4 inches apart over the window.
- ☐ Consider one-way window film or an external sunshade on the worst windows.

## 3. Fix feeder placement

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- ☐ Move feeders to within 3 feet of the window, or more than 30 feet away. Never between 3 and 30 feet.
- ☐ Plant shrubs between distant feeders and windows to give birds cover on the flight path.

## 4. Cut the night risk

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- ☐ Turn off unneeded lights during spring and fall migration.
- ☐ Close curtains or blinds at night so lit rooms do not draw in migrants.

## 5. If a bird hits the glass

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- ☐ Place it gently in a small ventilated box on a soft cloth. Keep the box dark, quiet, and warm.
- ☐ Give no food and no water. Keep pets away and handle the bird as little as possible.
- ☐ If it is alert and flying within an hour, release it near cover. Otherwise call a wildlife rehabilitator.