



Installer Insights

By Cliff Sparks and Andy Irwin

Universal Cord Tensioners get a makeover

All Hunter Douglas products with continuous cord loops or beaded chains also include a cord tensioner for proper and safer operation. As a dealer, it is critical that you follow the Hunter Douglas guidelines on the use of our child safety devices. If a product has a cord tensioner, it should be attached according to the directions that accompany the shade.

It's important that this topic be discussed with the homeowner at the point of sale and not only at the time of installation. The customer should know in advance if a cord tensioner will need to be attached to the window casement. If he or she doesn't want anything fastened to the window casement, you can offer other Hunter Douglas options such as the UltraGlide® and LiteRise® lifting systems that don't require the use of a cord tensioner.

Effective July 1, 2007, Hunter Douglas is changing the design of Universal Cord Tensioners so they must be attached to the wall or window casement for the product to operate properly. The new design requires tension on the cord for it to pass through the tensioner. If the cord tensioner is not attached, a lock inside grips the cord, and when the shading is either raised or lowered, the tensioner will travel up to the headrail until it presses against the clutch to prevent further operation.

For installers, the correct placement of this new Universal Cord Tensioner is critical, as there needs to be enough tension placed on the cord loop to release the lock in the tensioner.



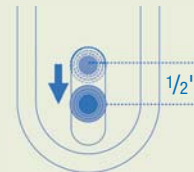
The easiest way to install the tensioner correctly is to follow these basic steps.

Inside mount:

1. Locate the tensioner as close to the shade as possible without it interfering with the fabric or bottom rail.
2. Hold the tensioner flat against the window frame.
3. Insert an awl, nail punch or small screwdriver into the screw-mounting hole and pull it down at least 1/2" to release the lock in the tensioner.
4. Mark this position for the screw to be installed into the window frame.

Outside mount:

1. Attach the outside mount bracket to the cord tensioner.
2. Pull down on the bracket so the screw attaching the tensioner to the brackets is at least 1/2" from the top of the slot in order to release the lock in the tensioner.
3. Mark the locations of the bracket screw holes on the wall surface.
4. Make sure this position does not interfere with the operation of the shade.



Pull the screw-mounting hole on the cord tensioner down 1/2" before attaching.

The new Universal Cord Tensioner will be used on these Hunter Douglas products:

- Applause® honeycomb shades
- Brilliance® pleated shades
- Duette® honeycomb shades
- Jubilation® Roman Shades
- Nantucket™ window shadings
- Provenance® woven wood shades
- Silhouette® window shadings
- Skyline™ Gliding Window Panels
- Trio® Convertible Shades
- Vignette® Modern Roman Shades

Again, make sure customers understand how the cord tensioner affects installation, and be sure to install the new tensioner correctly for proper product operation. 