



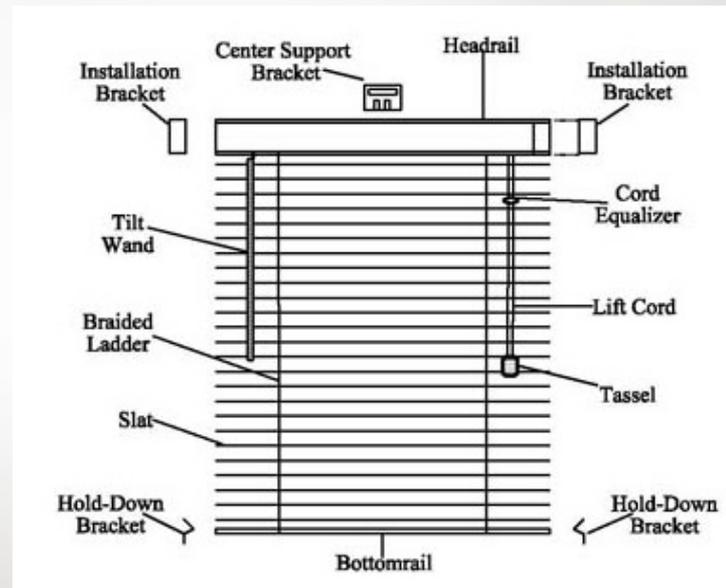
THE LIFE AND TIMES OF A MINI-BLIND

OSU Energy Management Program

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THE MINI-BLIND ARRIVES

❖ Once upon a semester, two brand new mini-blinds arrived in a Residential Life apartment with all of their parts intact. Proudly they hung in separate windows, with their slats turned downward, waiting for their new residents to arrive.



THE NEW RESIDENT

❖ One sunny August day, the first new resident, Norman, arrived. As he began moving boxes of belongings into the apartment, he decided to open the mini-blinds for some natural light. He grabbed the *tassel* attached to the *lift cord* and pulled. The mini-blind didn't budge. Norman pulled again. Still, the mini-blind didn't budge. Patiently, it waited for Norman to first use its *tilt wand* to turn the slats so that they would be *horizontal*. But, instead, Norman just yanked harder and harder on the *lift cord* until the mini-blind broke and fell to the floor with a crash. "Stupid, mini-blind!" Norman yelled. "It doesn't work!" And, he shoved the mini-blind against the wall, then stormed outside for more boxes.

ANOTHER NEW RESIDENT

❖ Sooner after, another new resident arrived. His name was Pete. Just as Norman had done, Pete went to the second mini-blind to open it so that he'd have more natural light while he moved in. First, Pete took the *tilt wand* in his hand and easily turned it so that the slats were *horizontal*. Then, he grabbed the *tassel* and gently pulled the *lift cord* until the mini-blind was lifted to the top of its *headrail*. Just then, Norman came back into the room. “Wow! How did you do that?” he asked. “It’s easy,” said Pete.



PETE'S GUIDE TO THE MINI-BLIND

- ❖ First, turn the *tilt wand* so that the slats are *horizontal*.
- ❖ Second, pull the *tassel* attached to the *lift cord* until the blinds are at the desired height.
- ❖ Third, gently pull the *lift cord* in one direction to lock the mini-blind in place, or pull in the opposite direction to release the mini-blind and lower it.
- ❖ Fourth, turn the *tilt wand* to tilt the slats into the desired position: (a) tilt upward to reduce heat load, or (b) tilt downward to increase heat load.
- ❖ **NOTE:** *Be aware of privacy issues and check mini-blinds from outside at night to be sure you are tilting them so that others cannot see into your living space, depending on which floor you are on.*