



Acopian BirdSavers



Prevent birds
from flying into
windows.

- ▶ Very elegant solution.
- ▶ Very simple design.
- ▶ It works!

www.BirdSavers.com

PO Box 638 Easton, PA 18044 USA

Phone: 610-258-6149

Choose one of these methods to install Acopian BirdSavers:

Method 1: Attach the Aluminum Tabs to the structure using the adhesive velcro. This is probably the simplest method, but the velcro/adhesive method may not last forever. There are many factors that determine how long the BirdSavers will stay in position using this method. One factor is the window frame material because the velcro adhesive adheres to some materials better than others. How hot that microclimate becomes is also a factor. We haven't done exhaustive tests on the 'velcro holding power' but we can say that in many situations the velcro is still holding BirdSavers in place after many years, but we've also seen some instances where the velcro 'failed' in less than a month.

Method 2: Put a screw in the extra hole on the Aluminum Tabs to hold the BirdSavers in place. With this method, the BirdSavers should stay in place as long as the building stands!

Method 3: Untie the cords from the Aluminum Tabs and tie the cord ends to appropriate anchor points. With this method also, the BirdSavers should last as long as the building stands!

Installing Acopian BirdSavers using the Aluminum Velcro Tabs:

1. Hold up the BirdSavers by the two aluminum velcro tabs. Hold a tab in each hand oriented so you can read "Acopian BirdSavers". Untangle any tangled cords so that they hang down smoothly.
2. Hold the BirdSavers against the window in the position that it should be in when it is in its final position - Position the BirdSavers so that the two 'hanging cords' on each end are the same distance from each side of the window. To make it a little easier later, you can put a piece of masking tape (or some other temporary marker) in line with one of the 'hanging cords' to serve as a reference point. Clean the small area of the building where the aluminum velcro tabs will be attached.
3. When you are comfortable with where the BirdSavers will hang, you can remove the tape covering the adhesive on the back of the velcro tabs. Then hold the BirdSavers in position and press down on the velcro tabs into its final position. The adhesive on the velcro tabs reaches its maximum strength after 24 hours. So after everything looks good, you may want to remove the BirdSavers for 24 hours to let the velcro adhesive harden.
5. Any kinks or curves in the 'hanging cords' can be smoothed out by holding the offending cord near the top with your fingers and then pulling (straightening) the bottom of the cord with your other hand.

We don't recommend installing BirdSavers if you need to get on a ladder to install, because of the inherent danger in climbing a ladder.



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Acopian BirdSavers™ - Fact Sheet

When people think of bird mortality they usually think of cats, wind turbines, and pesticide poisoning, among other causes. In fact, in North America the largest number of birds are killed each year by glass! Windows in our homes and other buildings can be deadly to birds. Many people do not realize that birds are killed at the windows they look through unless they happen to be there when the bird hits the window. Birds that die directly under the offending window are often taken by scavengers – cats, raccoons, skunks, chipmunks, other birds, etc. If it is a window where many birds die from collisions, even though you do not realize that birds are dying there, scavengers know and routinely check the area for fresh food. Many times, the bird that just hit the window dies immediately. Other times, the bird may fly away only to die later. Sometimes birds recover if the strike is not too severe.

Although the “incidental, accidental, or unintentional take” of migratory birds is a criminal violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service does not arrest anyone when birds are killed at windows! This is a good thing, as windows kill lots of birds. Because this problem is so overwhelming and there are no easy solutions, the USFWS doesn't even attempt to deal with the problem!

Until glass manufacturers design and manufacture window glass that deters birds from flying into it, and until people begin to use it, there appears to be little we can do to effectively eliminate the problem. One window manufacturer in the USA has recently developed a clear film that can be applied to existing windows that does reduce the likelihood of birds colliding with them. The film works remarkably well, but the manufacturer has not yet decided to market this product.

In lieu of the glass manufacturers' future solutions, Acopian BirdSavers can significantly decrease or eliminate the incidence of birds killed at your windows. A vast majority of people who have Acopian BirdSavers on their windows or have seen Acopian BirdSavers on windows, if they even notice them, admire their aesthetic appearance and are happy to be killing few, if any, birds. If you like, you can even make your own Acopian BirdSavers!

How to make Acopian BirdSavers

Acopian BirdSavers need to be installed on the outside of the window. This is so that birds flying towards the window will see the cords, avoid them, and therefore not fly into the glass. Acopian BirdSavers consist of 1/8 inch diameter nylon cords (olive-colored parachute cord, available in many places) hanging four and one quarter inches (4-1/4”) apart. Any method you use to achieve this will significantly decrease the number of birds that are hitting a problem window. The bottoms of the cords don't need to go all the way to the bottom of the glass. Most people like the look of the cords when they stop about 2 inches above the bottom of the glass. There are various ways to attach the BirdSavers cords to a window. See our website (www.BirdSavers.com) for example photos, or invent your own method! What you will use to support the vertical “hanging cords” depends upon your particular window's situation. You will achieve a 90 to 100 percent reduction in bird-window collisions by installing Acopian BirdSavers.

Order Online - Acopian BirdSavers

If you decide to order Acopian BirdSavers, instead of making your own, the top attachment “support cord” will be made of parachute cord. These types of BirdSavers are a little more difficult to make than any of the other versions shown on the website. You will achieve a 90 to 100 percent reduction in bird-window collisions by installing Acopian BirdSavers.

History of Acopian BirdSavers

The first Acopian BirdSavers were made in the mid-1980s. Being a family of engineers and naturalists, we were upset when we realized that the windows of our home were killing birds as they flew into them, and we decided to try to figure out a way to stop the killing. The first Acopian BirdSavers were made from those “stylish hanging curtain beads” that were fashionable years ago. We took the individual bead strings apart and rehung them about every 4 inches in front of the offending windows. We had remarkable success on the first try. It worked! But our rooms faintly resembled those of a hippie pad with those beads hanging on the outside of the windows. But it was better than killing birds. And for some reason, the birds that previously were hitting the windows seemed always to be “rare” birds – species that we hardly ever saw. It was exciting to see them, but not exciting to see them dead.

Our “beaded” BirdSavers lasted many years. As far as we knew, we had zero bird kills on the windows with these first-generation BirdSavers. The beads eventually began to deteriorate, and we couldn't find more to replace them (this was before the internet). Our second-generation BirdSavers used very thin bamboo poles. These also worked, but they didn't look as nice as the “beaded” ones.

Eventually we started experimenting with parachute cord. It turns out that this worked beautifully to stop birds from hitting the windows, and as an added bonus, looked good. The current design is easy to hang and can be easily removed, although as far as we know, no one who has put up Acopian BirdSavers has taken them down. People actually like the way they look and think they look cool!