Since 1996 three people have died when the structure supporting a basketball ring collapsed on top of them. These deaths occurred after the player held on to the basketball ring.

Basketball rings installed on home exteriors may not be able to support the player's weight, making hanging or swinging on the ring extremely dangerous.

Fatal and serious injuries result from falling debris such as bricks and guttering.

When placed under pressure from continual play, the installation can weaken.

Basketball rings and backboards installed on brick walls—found on many garages and above doors—are easily dislodged.

Check the structural soundness of any wall or post that a basketball ring and backboard is attached to. Ideally, a basketball ring and backboard should be fixed to a ‘hot dip’ galvanised steel post.

Fix the basketball ring and backboard to a ‘hot dip’ galvanised steel post

> Do not fix a basketball ring and backboard to brickwork.*
> Do not use a basketball ring and backboard mounted on brickwork.*
> The post should be set at a minimum of 800 mm into a mass concrete footing of 500 mm x 500 mm (or 500 mm diameter) by one metre deep.
> The post should be set at a minimum of 800 mm into a mass concrete footing of 500 mm x 500 mm (or 500 mm diameter) by one metre deep.
> Follow the manufacturer’s instructions when attaching the basketball ring to the backboard, and the backboard to the post.

Check the condition of the installation

> Check the stability of the post, brick wall or any other supporting structure on a regular basis as the installation can deteriorate over time.
> Ensure that water does not pond at the post footing. This is especially important in salt water environments.

Consult a structural engineer if you have any doubt about the safety or stability of the installation.

Safe installation of basketball rings

Post and footing details.

For further information:
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