

Basement Remodeling Expert Mike Werbowski Shares Tips on Egress Windows and Basement Safety for HelloNation

Why are egress windows such a critical part of a finished basement?

BUFFALO, NY, UNITED STATES, October 6, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Why are egress windows such a critical part of a finished basement? A [HelloNation article](#) featuring Mike Werbowski of Total Basement Finishing of Western NY explains how egress windows go beyond design considerations, serving as essential safety features required by building code. The article highlights why every basement bedroom and finished basement should include this lifesaving addition.

The primary reason for installing an egress window is safety. In a fire or emergency, basements present unique risks, since stairways may be blocked and escape routes limited. An egress window provides an accessible second exit, ensuring that occupants can leave quickly and emergency responders can enter if necessary. Werbowski emphasizes that this is not simply a good idea; it is a requirement under modern building code.

In fact, if a finished basement includes a basement bedroom, a properly sized and installed egress window is mandatory. Building code requires every sleeping area to have two means of egress, and windows must meet specific standards for size, accessibility, and ease of operation. Without this feature, a basement bedroom does not meet legal requirements, which can create both safety concerns and financial consequences for homeowners.

Beyond safety and compliance, egress windows add practical benefits. They introduce natural light, making a finished basement feel more like a true extension of the home rather than a dark, enclosed space. They also improve ventilation, which contributes to healthier indoor air quality and more comfortable living conditions. This transformation can change the perception of a



Mike Werbowski

basement from a storage area into valuable living space.

Property value also comes into play. A basement bedroom without a legal egress window is not recognized as livable square footage in most appraisals. By installing an egress window, homeowners ensure that their basement bedroom qualifies as a true bedroom in the eyes of building officials, real estate agents, and potential buyers. This upgrade not only improves safety but also increases resale value and marketability.

Installing an egress window, however, is not a do-it-yourself project. The process involves excavation, structural framing, and waterproofing to ensure durability and compliance with building code. When handled by experienced professionals, the installation is straightforward and delivers both long-term performance and peace of mind. Werbowski notes that while homeowners often focus on flooring, lighting, and layout when designing a finished basement, safety should always take priority.

The HelloNation article underscores that homeowners should not treat egress windows as optional or cosmetic. For any finished basement, and especially for those with a basement bedroom, these windows are vital. They provide code-required protection, natural light, better air circulation, and an increase in property value. Most importantly, they safeguard the lives of occupants in the event of an emergency.

Werbowski concludes that a finished basement without an egress window leaves families vulnerable and may not meet building standards. By making safety the first priority, homeowners protect both their loved ones and their investment. Adding this feature ensures that basements serve as safe, comfortable, and fully functional parts of the home.

The full article, titled "[Egress Windows & Basement Safety](#)", features Mike Werbowski of Total Basement Finishing of Western NY and is available now on HelloNation.

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Pat McCabe

HelloNation

info@hellation.com

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