

Cleaning & Maintenance Advice – Reflective Glass.

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Cleaning Of Glass

This information is offered as general information only. Specific advice on the cleaning of glass should always be sought from a reputable glazier or professional window cleaner before any glass cleaning is undertaken.



Routine Cleaning

Hand cleaning of the glass surface, to visibly remove accumulated dust or fingerprints, can be accomplished using a number of different glass cleaning products.

PROCEDURE:

- While cleaning ensure jewellery and watches are removed and gloves should be worn to avoid scratching the surface of the glass. Scratches that occur from foreign objects will be permanent and are not repairable.

Wipe a few drops of Methylated Spirits over the surface with a clean, damp cloth.

- Wipe over the surface, ensuring no spillage around the edges.
- Polish the surface dry with a lint free cloth.

Do not use cleaners such as steel wool, scouring bristles or other metallic or abrasive materials as this may scratch the glass. Some proprietary glass cleaners,

if used to excess, can cause damage to the backing as can excessive amounts of water. Make certain when cleaning the face of the glass that there is no contact with the backing, particularly at the edge of the glass and be careful to keep any moisture of the back of the glass. Do everything possible to ensure that the cleaning cloths used are free of any abrasives.

RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS:

- **Methylated Spirits** (solvent available from supermarkets and hardware stores) Please use strictly in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations and warnings.

OTHER CONSIDERATION & IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Do not use cleaners which contain **Hydrofluoric** or **Phosphoric acid** as they are corrosive to the glass surface.
- Do not clean the glass when the glass is hot or in direct sunlight.
- Do not allow cleaning solutions to contact the edges of laminated glass, Insulating Glass Units or Mirrors.
- Do not store or place other material in contact with the glass. (This can damage the glass or create a heat trap leading to thermal breakage).
- Abrasive cleaners, powder based cleaners, scouring pads or other harsh materials should not be used to clean windows or other glass products.
- Avoid causing extreme temperature changes to the glass as this may lead to thermal fracture of the glass, i.e. do not splash hot water on cold glass or freezing water on hot glass.
- Some tapes or adhesives can stain or damage glass surfaces. Avoid using such materials unless they are known to be easily removed.

Paint Damage:-

Paint spots have been traditionally removed using a sharp razor blade or metal scrapers. The use of a these items will cause damage to the glass. As an alternative, investigate solvents or graffiti removal materials, ensuring that they will not damage the glass.

Warning: - Viridian **does not** warrant damage caused by razor blades or metal scrapers.

What to do if glass breakage occurs?

If glass is damaged or broken ensure that experienced glaziers are engaged to rectify the situation. Glass can be a safety hazard if not handled properly. – **Do Not Attempt** to remove or replace broken glass unless you are experienced in doing so, broken glass can be extremely dangerous and cause serious injuries or death.

PROFESSIONAL CLEANERS

Professional glass cleaners have significant experience and access to specialised equipment, materials and methods which the general public may not. Professional glass cleaners are acknowledged experts in the cleaning of glass, Viridian offers this information as general advice only. Professional glass cleaners should consider the following information as part of the development of their own cleaning processes and procedures if desired.

RECOMMENDATIONS DURING CONSTRUCTION

- Always follow manufacturer's installation and cleaning instructions.
- It's recommended that glass be protected from the risk of contamination caused by building materials and other exposure risks during Construction, this will greatly simplify the glass cleaning task at the end of the project. If the glass cannot be protected during construction then the glass and frames should be cleaned frequently to ensure no permanent damage occurs.
- Construction dust, leachate from concrete and rusting from steel can contribute to the formation of mild chemical reactions; this may stain or otherwise damage the surface of glass, voiding warranties.
- Glass should be cleaned using only cleaning materials which are free of grit and debris (to avoid scratching and marking of the glass surface).
- Only detergents and cleaning solutions which are recommended for cleaning glass should be used. Mild detergents or organic cleaners without sulphates are preferable.
- Temporary screens must be installed if welding, sandblasting, floor sanding, cuffing or other potentially damaging construction practices takes place near the glass.
- Glass installations which are adjacent to concrete (e.g. concrete slab floors) require extra care and cleaning due to the abrasive nature of concrete dust.
- All tradespeople should be advised to be aware of damaging glass and windows and to leave in place any materials protecting the window or glass during the construction period.

ABOUT THIS ADVICE

This information is offered as a general guide only and specific advice should always be sought from a reputable glazier or professional window cleaner before undertaking any

cleaning. This guidance does not preclude the use of other methods, materials or equipment; however the user should undertake careful evaluation and make suitable enquiries of the suitability of alternative methods, materials or equipment, before using them. Viridian has taken all reasonable care in producing this document, however Viridian makes no representations or warranties, express or implied, as to the accuracy, reliability or completeness of, and disclaims all liability, direct or indirect (and whether or not arising out of the negligence, default or lack of care of Viridian for any loss or damage (whether foreseeable or not) suffered by the recipient or any other person arising out of, or in connection with, any use or reliance by any of them on this document. Liability which cannot legally be excluded is limited to the maximum extent possible.

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