

## **General Glass Cleaning Procedure**

### **Cleaning Of Glass**

This information is provided as a general guide only. Specific advice on the cleaning of glass should always be obtained from either the supplier or a professional window cleaner.

### **Professional Cleaners**

Professional glass cleaners have significant experience in the cleaning of glass and glazing products and as such are experts in the field. This cleaning information is offered as general advice only for professional cleaners to consider as part of the development of their cleaning processes.

#### **DO**

- Protect the glass from knocks, abrasions and excessive pressure
- Follow the cleaning instructions

#### **DO NOT**

- Clean the glass in direct sunlight or when hot to touch
- Allow the edges of the glass to sit in areas where water may pool
- Use metal scrapers, blades or steel wool on either surface of the glass
- Allow water or cleaning fluids to remain in contact with the glass, frame, sealants or gaskets
- Allow splashed materials to dry on the glass or its frame
- Use abrasive cleaning solutions or materials
- Subject the glass to extreme changes in temperature
- Lean tools etc against the glass surface

## Recommended General Cleaning Products

Prints On Glass does not recommend the use of abrasive cleaning products.

- A solution of 1 part vinegar to 10 parts clean water
- A solution of water and mild soap or liquid dish washing detergent (10 drops per 10 liters of water)
- Windex® Glass and Surface manufactured by SC Johnson and Son Pty Ltd. (Clear Windex must only be used NOT the blue coloured product)

## Spot Cleaning

From time to time it may be necessary to remove stubborn dirt and other residues such as: oil, grease, tape residues, crayon and the like from the coated surface.

Spot cleaning of these residues is a relatively simple procedure. The method is a simple two-cloth procedure where one cloth is used to break up the residues and a second cloth is used to remove the residue from the surface.

The basic steps are:

- Applying a small amount of acetone to a clean, slightly damp cloth
- Rub this cloth onto the affected area
- A second lint free cloth can now be used to remove the residues from the surface
- The entire surface should now be cleaned as per the procedure above to eliminate streaking

# It is important that the frames, sealants and gaskets are protected during spot cleaning. The spot cleaning solvents can cause irreversible degradation of these components.

## Recommended Spot Cleaning Solvent

Acetone (acetone is available from most hardware stores. It is important the manufactures safety and handling recommendations are followed when using this product)

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## Note to the Painter!

Paint spots have traditionally been removed using a sharp razor blade. The use of a blade can in some cases cause damage to the glass. As an alternative, investigate solvents or graffiti removal materials, ensuring that they will not damage the glass. If a blade or scraper is used then the risk of damage can be reduced by using a scraper which has a clean edge held at an angle of 30 degrees to the glass. Consult the supplier of the blade or scraper as to how it is best used to clean glass. However, coated and tinted glass requires special care. Seek cleaning advice from your local glass merchant.

## Routine Cleaning Instructions

Glass products must be properly cleaned during both construction activities and as part of routine maintenance in order to maintain visual and aesthetic clarity. Improper cleaning can permanently damage the surface of glazing products.

Cleaning of the glass should begin at the top of the structure and continue down towards lower levels to minimize the probability of leaving cleaning residues on the lower levels. Care should be taken to prevent wind blowing residues onto glass that has already been cleaned.

The glass should only be cleaned when cool to touch and should never be cleaned while in direct sunlight.

The first step in the cleaning procedure is to completely flood the glass with clean water to loosen any residues present. The cleaning solution should then be applied to the glass surface. The solution can be either applied by hand or by a non-abrasive applicator. Immediately following the application, the cleaning solution should be removed with either a squeegee or a lint free cloth. All traces of water and cleaning solution must be removed from the glass, window frames as well as any sealant or gaskets present. Failure to remove these residues may result in deterioration of these components as a direct consequence of the cleaning process.