

1 GLASS CARE (including low-e coated glass)

This information is offered as a general guide, specialist advice on the cleaning of glass should always be sought from a reputable glazier or professional window cleaner.

✓ DO

- For large amounts of dirt and construction grime, first remove all surface matter with a strong water spray. (garden hose or pressure cleaner) Take care to flush away ALL insoluble particulate matter to prevent the risk of fine surface scratches.
- Use recommended, readily available cleaning solutions such as Mr. Muscle Window & Surface Cleaner.
- OR use a DIY cleaning solution - mixture of one-part clear vinegar with nine-parts clean water.

✗ DO NOT

- Use a razor blade, steel wool or any metal object to remove dirt.
- Use ammonia or alcohol-based glass cleaners. (they leave visible streaks on the glass)
- Clean glass with a cloth if there is any grime on the surface.
- Grind or weld near the glass surface.

Procedure

1. For large amounts of dirt and construction grime, first remove all surface matter with a strong water spray. (garden hose or pressure cleaner) Take care to flush away insoluble particulate matter to prevent the risk of causing fine surface scratches. Do not proceed until all surface matter is washed away.
2. Flood the glass surface with a spray-on cleaning solution or with a cloth saturated with the cleaning solution to thoroughly wet the surface and remove any dust particles. Be generous with the amount of solution applied.
3. Rub the wetted surface with a clean, lint free towel or cloth to fully dissolve any dirt on the glass.
4. Wipe dry with a dry, clean, lint free towel or cloth. It is preferable not to use a squeegee on a low emissivity surface.
5. To prevent streaking, stop wiping when the glass is almost dry and there is still a uniform, thin film of moisture left on the glass surface. This film will quickly evaporate leaving a clean surface. Note: streaking is simply the re-deposition of smears of non-uniform dirt and detergent from the cleaning solution. (if there was too much dirt and too little volume of cleaning solution)
6. If after the above procedure and under critical viewing, the glass does not appear clean, perform a final rinse with distilled water before the cleaning solution has had time to evaporate. This will remove the dirt contaminated detergent solution.

2 POWDER COATING CARE

Architectural Grade Powder is an organic coating which needs to be cleaned and maintained regularly to ensure the decorative and protective properties of the coating are retained. The frequency of such cleaning will depend on many factors including:

1. The Geographical location of the building.
2. The environment surrounding the building i.e. marine, industrial, alkaline / acidic etc.
3. Levels of atmospheric pollution.
4. Prevailing wind.
5. Protection of the building by other buildings.
6. Possibility of air borne debris (e.g. sand) causing erosive wear to the coating.

The best method of cleaning is by regular washing of the coating using a solution of warm water and mild detergent (e.g. 5% Teepol solution – dishwashing liquid). All surfaces should be cleaned using a soft cloth or sponge, using nothing harsher than natural bristle brushes. (Cleaning of window sections can be conveniently carried out at the same time as glazing cleaning)

If the atmospheric pollution has resulted in heavy soiling of the coating, then nothing harsher than white spirit should be used for cleaning and under no circumstances should any abrasive cleaner or any cleaner containing ketones, esters and alcohols be used.

The frequency of cleaning depends in part on the standard of appearance that is required and also the requirements to remove deposits which could, during prolonged contact with either the powder film or the metal substrate, (if exposed) cause damage.

In industrial environments the normal frequency of cleaning should be at no more than three monthly intervals. However, where there is high atmospheric pollution or an extremely hazardous atmosphere (i.e. a combination of factors in item 2) the period between cleaning should be reduced.

Where the atmosphere is deemed to be non-hazardous e.g. rural or “normal” urban environments, then the period between cleaning can be extended to a maximum of 18 months. However, if heavy soiling occurs more regularly cleaning is recommended.

If the project is subject to any unusual environmental factors or is close to salt water or marine environments the manufacturer must be consulted on an individual basis.



DO

- A surface test first before cleaning
- Use pH neutral detergents
- Use sponge, cloth etc. (must be grit free)
- Clean regularly - environment dependent
- Use water



DO NOT

- Clean a hot, sun heated surface
- Clean in freezing temperatures or when condensation is present
- Use abrasive cleaner such as steel wool etc.
- Use paint remover, lacquer thinners or MEK
- Use cleaner that is highly alkaline or highly acidic
- Use cleaners that contain fluorides, ketones, esters, chlorides, sulfates or ammonia (e.g. Handy Andy)
- Mix cleaners
- Keep protective tape on for longer than 3 weeks

REPAIR PROCEDURE FOR POWDER COATING

For on-site rectification of small damaged areas automotive lacquer, or Polyurethane acrylic color matched to the appropriate shade, should be used.

Where the damage has exposed the metal, this exposed area should be primed with two pack etch primer.

If further information is required please do not hesitate to contact our Technical Department.

METHOD 1: SMALL ISOLATED SPOT (APPROX. 5-6cm²) AND SCRATCH DAMAGE

- a. Clean all surfaces to be painted with light degreasing solution liberally with a clean cloth and wipe dry.
- b. Abrade all areas to be coated with 400 abrasive paper then wipe clean with a tack rag.
- c. Apply by spray gun to exposed metal area only one thin coat of etch primer and allow to dry for one hour.
- d. Apply by spray gun one coat of Automotive Laquer or polyurethane Acrylic.

METHOD 2: LARGER AREAS OF DAMAGE RESULTING FROM SCUFFING OF IMPROPER USE OF MASKING TAPE

This can be best carried out by an experienced spray painter.

- a. Mask all surrounding surface to the damaged area to avoid over spray.
- b. Clean all surface to be painted (as above)
- c. Abrade all surface to be coated with 400 abrasive paper (as above).
- d. Apply by spray gun to exposed metal surface only one coat of etch primer (as above)
- e. Apply by spray gun 3 coats of finishing coat (as above)

Automotive lacquer and Polyurethane Acrylic matched to the correct shade, are available from Automotive paint retailers throughout South Africa.



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