

GENERAL GLASS WASHING INSTRUCTIONS

Technical Data

Glass is one of the most durable building materials known to man. If properly maintained, it can last forever. Glass is hard, but can be scratched. Glass is resistant to many chemicals but can be harmed by chemicals.

One of the most harmful materials to glass is glass itself. When stored, glass should be separated by an air space or clean paper. When removing glass from storage, avoid sliding one pane over another, as they can be scratched or abraded.

Glass should be washed frequently to remove surface dirt, and also to protect the glass from staining. Glass staining occurs when the sodium within the glass reacts with moisture in the air. Sodium, when combined with small amounts of water, can create sodium hydroxide, which is corrosive to glass. If this sodium hydroxide is left on the glass surface for a prolonged period of time, the glass will be permanently damaged and may have to be replaced.

The sodium hydroxide is easily removed with water and normal glass cleaning solutions, i.e., alcohol and water, or ammonia and water. Glass which is installed is less prone to sodium hydroxide damage due to the natural cleansing of the glass surface by rain.

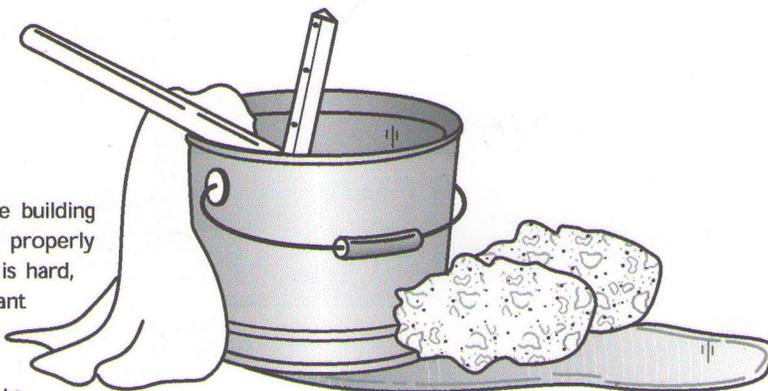
Permissible cleaning or washing solutions

A. General Cleaning

- Use water applied by a saturated cloth.
- Use pre-mixed glass cleaning solutions. Follow all printed instructions. Immediately remove all pre-mixed cleaning solutions with a dry, soft cloth.
- Use a 50-50 mixture of alcohol and water, or ammonia and water, followed by a water rinse. Glass must be dried with a soft cloth or a chamois and cellulose sponge.

B. Removal of Graffiti, Marking Pens, Lipsticks, Paints, Sealants or Oily Films

- Solvents, i.e., Isopropyl Alcohol, Acetone, Toluene and Mineral Spirits, can be used in moderation, followed by a thorough rinse with water, and wiping with a soft cloth.



- Use Steel Wool with extreme caution; (Grade 00 or 000), saturated with a glass cleaning solution or permissible solvents.

Precautions

- Avoid abrasive or highly alkaline cleaners. Do not use petroleum products, i.e., gasoline, kerosene or lighter fluid.
- Hydrofluoric and Phosphoric acid are corrosive to the glass surface and should not be used.
- Protect the glass surface from over spray or run-off from acids and cleaning agents used to clean metal framing, brick or masonry.
- Keep all cleaning solutions, water, solvents and other materials listed in this section from contacting the edges of laminated glass or insulating glass.
- Do not use abrasive brushes, razor blades or other objects which may scratch the glass.
- Immediately remove any construction materials, i.e., concrete, fire proofing, paints, labels and tapes.
- Clean a small area at a time, and inspect the glass surface frequently to ensure no glass damage.
- For most effective results, clean glass at a time when its surface is shaded. Avoid direct sunlight or hot glass.

(Not applicable to Reflective Glass)

Reference Guardian technical data sheet

"Reflective Coated Glass Cleaning."



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