



PILKINGTON
NSG Group Flat Glass Business

UK Technical Bulletin

Cleaning of Glass

Glass should normally be cleaned with a clean cloth and a clear non-abrasive cleaner, such as clean soapy water or a proprietary window cleaner. For glass with a patterned, etched or sandblasted surface, a stiff bristle or nylon brush can be used to remove dirt from the recesses in the surface.

If the glass does not become clean using the above methods then the following can be tried.

Use a mild acid (e.g. vinegar) or a mild solvent (e.g. methylated spirit), taking care not to spill any of these on other surfaces or materials and always following the safety advice that comes with acids, solvents and cleaning materials.

If neither treatment works then the glass may need to be polished. This is likely to be expensive and best left to experts in this particular field.

If scratches are the issue rather than dirt, the process may result in some optical distortion where the glass surface has been polished to remove to remove the scratches.

Special Notes on Cleaning

Organic solvent cleaners should be avoided on mirrors since they may attack the backing paint.

Leaded Glass should only be cleaned with a clear non-abrasive cleaner. The cleaner should be of a type that does not remove the patina (aged surface finish) of the lead.

Patterned glass, acid etched glass and sandblasted glass should only be cleaned with a clear non-abrasive cleaner. Any insoluble material in the cleaner may deposit in the recesses of the etching or sandblasting and may be very difficult to remove.