

## Cleaning of Glass

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### 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 minimise 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.

1. Completely drench the glass with clean water to loosen any residues, deposits or dirt.
2. Spray or apply a mild soap, detergent or conventional window cleaning solvent onto the glass surface.
3. Immediately remove the cleaning solution with a lint free cloth.
4. Any stubborn dirt should be lightly sponged off, being careful not to scratch the glass. All traces of water and cleaning solution must be removed from the glass, window frames and also from any sealant or gaskets present. Failure to remove any residue may cause these components to deteriorate as a direct consequence of the cleaning process.

## High Performance Coated Glass

### Introduction

To achieve enhanced thermal insulation or solar control qualities, a microscopically thin coating is applied to the interior surface of these products. While these coatings are extremely hard and durable, they require modified handling, cleaning and maintenance compared to traditional glazing products.

### Cleaning Instructions - Exterior Surface

Cleaning of the exterior surface may be carried out as per the routine instructions above.

### Cleaning Instructions - Interior Surface

As the interior surface of these high performance products contains a microscopically thin coating, a different cleaning procedure is necessary. While the recommended cleaning solutions are the same as detailed above, arbucomp advises that the coated face be **hand** cleaned - the use of squeegees is **not** recommended.

## **Mirrors and back painted glass**

### **Mirror Cleaning Instructions**

The surface of mirrors and back painted glass requires special care when cleaning. It is particularly important to ensure that there is no contact between the mirror backing material and the cleaning solution - **particular care should be taken to prevent contact at the edges of the mirror**. If the backing material is contacted with the cleaning solutions irreversible degradation of the mirror may result.

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

To clean the mirror place a few drops of methylated spirits or conventional window cleaning liquid onto a clean, damp cloth. Wipe the solution over the surface of the mirror. Polish the surface dry with a clean, dry lint free cloth.

### **Frequency of Cleaning**

Cleaning required is dependant on the severity of the environment. The following time periods represent a guide only.

#### **Rural / Suburban Environments**

The maximum period between cleaning should never be more than six (6) months.

#### **Coastal / Pool / Industrial Environments**

More frequent cleaning is necessary here with the maximum period between cleaning being no more than three (3) months.

#### **Extreme Conditions**

Under the worst conditions involving heavy grime deposition and atmospheric pollution (e.g. sulphur compounds or salts) monthly cleaning is advisable if deterioration is to be prevented.

arbucomp UG  
Rathausgasse 11  
97877 Wertheim  
Germany  
t +49 9342 9285 18  
f +49 9342 9285 38  
[info@arbucomp.com](mailto:info@arbucomp.com)  
[www.arbucomp.com](http://www.arbucomp.com)