

Satin Acid-Etched Glass Care and Handling Guidelines

Handling

- Before unloading the truck, verify the weight of the cases/stoces and confirm the proper handling equipment
- Check your shipments on arrival. If there is any moisture, the sheets should be unpacked and allowed to dry using a separating technique. Do not allow sheets to remain in contact with wet protective pads.
- Be sure that your storage areas are dry, adequately ventilated spaces. Don't store sheets in areas of high humidity, where exposed to chemical fumes, or near to high heat. Thus, do not store sheets at outside or unheated areas.
- Sheets should be unpacked as soon as possible, not to allow moisture caused by voyage, especially if the sheets have been subject to temperature changes during the period.
- Store the cases/stoces up off the floor to prevent any water damage to the bottom of the sheets. Also, do not store crates or sheets on improper surfaces. This can lead to stresses on the sheets which can cause cracks or breakage.
- Store sheets vertically. Do not lay sheets flat. Even little movements in a flat stack will cause abrasion if not breakage.
- When removing sheets from the case, separate them from the pack one at a time before removal.
- Never slide a sheet across the one behind and always handle one sheet at the time.
- Do not move or reship partially unpacked cases without suitable repacking. Movement within the case can cause damage or breakage.
- If sheets are transported in an open or exposed condition and become spattered, they should be washed and dried immediately.
- Always use gloves and safety jackets when handling glass sheets

Cutting and Processing

Vacuum or sweep the cutting tables with a stiff brush regularly to keep dust down and to eliminate glass grit and particles which could scratch sheets.

Acid-etched glass sheets are cut most easily by scoring the unetched side. When cutting etched mirrors or glass which is etched on both sides, the etched surface can be scored, however, increased cutting pressure is required, but do not forget to test cutting pressure. After cutting the sheets, pieces should be washed in order to avoid stunning oil on the products.

Acid-etched glass may be susceptible to marking during machine-edging if proper care is not taken. For best results find the steps as follows:

1. Ensure that the machine's gripping pads have been scrubbed clean.
2. Verify the back and front speed of conveyors
3. Wet the glass before fabrication and wash the glass immediately after fabrication.
4. Never allow coolant or cerium oxide to dry on the glass, as it may become a permanent stain on the etched surface.
5. Acid-etched glass may be machine-washed or washed by hand using clean, lint free cloths for washing and drying. Detergents or glass cleaners may be used and will not be harmful.

Since there are many variations in chemical formulations of Acid-etched glass products, we cannot list every product or brand that may or may not be applied to the surface. Here however, are a few of the products which may cause some problems and should be avoided or evaluated beforehand:

- Silicone adhesives
- Mirror mastics
- black felt markers
- wax markers
- oil
- grease

Cleaning and Maintenance

In order to avoid permanent damage and maintain visual and aesthetic quality, acid-etched glass products should be protected during construction and must be properly cleaned after installation and as part of routine maintenance.

When there is any dirty and residual situation appear, acid-etched glass surfaces should be thoroughly cleaned. If the glass is extremely dirty, as a result of recent external factors the glass surfaces should be soaked with clean water and mild soap solution to loosen dirt or debris. Following the initial soaking of the glass, normal cleaning procedures should be followed. Professional glass cleaners are recommended for cleaning decorative glass products in line of construction site workers.

When the glass requires normal maintenance, use a mild, non-abrasive solution and uniformly apply the solution to the glass surfaces with a soft, non-abrasive applicator (e.g. thick cloth or sponge). Immediately dry the glass surface with a lint-free cloth

Here are some key recommendations;

1. Clean a small area of the glass first. Check to see if procedures have caused any damage
2. Do not use razor blades or other scrapers for cleaning decorative glass. Do not allow dirt and residue to remain on glass for an extended period of time
3. Do not allow metal parts of cleaning equipment to contact the glass
4. Caution other trades against allowing other materials to contact the glass. Evaluate and prevent conditions that can damage the glass.