

How to Clean Acrylic Sheets

Approved Cleaning Procedures for Acrylic Sheet

Tuf-Glas™, Crylex®, and Zycryl™ should be cleaned periodically to prolong the serviceable life of the sheet.

Periodic cleaning using proper procedures and compatible cleaners is recommended to prolong the service life. For general cleaning, it is recommended that the following instructions and cleaning agents be used. These procedures and cleaners are also recommended for use on all acrylic sheet.

CLEANING PROCEDURES

1. Rinse acrylic sheet with lukewarm water.
2. Wash acrylic sheet with a mild soap and lukewarm water.
3. Use a soft cloth (micro-fiber) or sponge and gently wash with an up and down motion.
4. Rinse the cloth or sponge and change the water often. **DO NOT SCRUB** or use brushes or squeegees. Do not use paper towels because they will not remove scratches and may even cause them.
5. Repeat rinse and dry with a soft cloth to prevent water spotting.

Cleaning Agents Compatible with Acrylic

Joy
Palmolive
Top Job
VM&P with Naptha
Ammonia free glass cleaners
Brilliance cleaner
Cleaning wipes with at least 70% alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, bleach, isopropyl alcohol or ethyl alcohol.

Cleaning Agents Not Compatible with Acrylic

Never use: Concentrations of ammonia
Highly alkaline cleaners
Aromatic or halogenated solvents
Harsh solvents or abrasive cleansers

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IMPORTANT: If a material is found to be incompatible in a short-term test, it will usually be found to be incompatible in the field. The converse, however, is not always true. Favorable performance is no guarantee that actual end-use conditions have been duplicated. Therefore, these results should be used as a guide only and the products must be tested under actual end-use conditions by the user. **Cleaning** refers to the removal of germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces. Cleaning does not kill germs, but by removing them, it lowers their numbers and the risk of spreading infection. **Disinfecting** refers to using chemicals to kill germs on surfaces. This process does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces or remove germs, but by killing germs on a surface after cleaning, it can further lower the risk of spreading infection.

Points to Remember

- Do not use abrasive cleaners.
- Do not use high alkaline cleaners (high pH or ammoniated).
- Do not leave cleaners sitting on acrylic for periods of time; wash off immediately.
- Do not apply cleaners under direct sunlight or at elevated temperatures.
- Do not clean your acrylic with any unapproved cleaners. When in doubt, seek guidance.
- Using scrapers, squeegees, razors, or other sharp instruments may permanently scratch acrylic.
- Always avoid dry rubbing/cleaning your acrylic, as sand and dust particles clinging to the exterior of the glazing may scratch its surface.
- An Anti-Static Canned-Air Ionizer can reduce electrostatic charge buildup on acrylic, consequently, reducing dirt and dust buildup that would hinder cleaning.

The chemical resistance of acrylic products depends on the concentration of cleaner/disinfectant, contact time, temperature of the solution and plastic, and internal stress level in the part. Repeated and/or extended chemical exposures, heat, elevated stresses, or any combination of these conditions could degrade the plastic or its chemical resistance. Therefore, it is imperative that the plastic be inspected routinely for chemical attack and overall degradation, and replaced as needed, like other forms of protective equipment such as masks, gloves, safety shields and barriers.

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