PFG

ESSENTIAL STORAGE, INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE GUIDE

How to achieve the best from your

MIRRORS

through the correct transportation, storage, processing, cutting, installation and maintenance

STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION

1. Glass exhibits more strength when stored upright, so store mirrors vertically – do not lay them flat
2. Make sure that the handling equipment used is strong enough to handle the weight of the mirror. A dropped mirror is a ruined mirror
3. Ensure that the area where the mirror is stored is dry – avoid condensation on the mirror at all times

PROCESSING AND CUTTING

1. Make sure that mirrors (especially the back and edges) are thoroughly washed after processing, using clean water.

2. The polishing tool in the edge working process must always be sharp and in good condition. If any polishing or bevelling equipment is in poor condition, it can cause the glass temperature to increase by up to 500°C, due to friction. This will result in flaking of the protective backing paint.

3. The pH of the processing water should be between 7 and 10. Don't allow the mirrors to stand in the cooling water. Fresh water must be added regularly to the cooling water cycle. The use of additives in the cooling water should always be at the lowest recommended concentration. Wash the edges well with clean water and dry immediately.

4. PFG highly recommends using a clear water-based varnish to seal all processed edges on the paint side, to limit any risk of edge corrosion.

5. When cutting the mirror, keep at least one factory original edge (the original stock sheet edge), and install this edge at the bottom where puddling of water may occur.

6. Always grind or polish as shown, to minimise chipping and damage to the protective paint layer.

Vacuum or sweep the cutting tables with a stiff brush regularly, to remove dust and eliminate glass grit and particles that can scratch mirrors.

FIXING AND INSTALLATION

1. Be sure to wear all the correct safety equipment. Use gloves when handling a mirror to prevent skin-borne salts or chemicals from damaging the mirror face or backing.

2. Never apply the mirror to a plastered, unpainted wall. Paint the wall behind the mirror only with enamel paint. Allow the paint to dry fully before installing the mirror.

3. Set the mirror at least 5mm off the wall, allow air to circulate behind the mirror – don't fix the mirror into a recess.

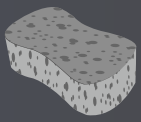
4. Use a water-based varnish to seal the edges. This is particularly important for installation in areas of high humidity.

5. The adhesive MUST say "suitable for use on mirror". Only use approved tapes, mastics and adhesives. Contact your adhesive supplier for recommendations. Only use neutral cure silicones and tapes specifically recommended for use on mirror. Follow the adhesive manufacturer recommendations.

7. Use grommets on screws to protect the mirror from direct contact with metal screws.

8. Ensure that the installation area is well ventilated and free of fumes or solvents, which can be present/result from grout cleaners, tile adhesives and similar harsh chemicals.

Never use an abrasive cleaner on any mirror surface. Mechanical fastening devices should always be used in conjunction with the adhesive – this helps prevent possible personal injury or damage if the adhesive fails.



MAINTENANCE AND CARE

1. Clean the mirror regularly by washing it with a soft cloth, rinsing it with warm water and drying the mirror with a soft cloth. When using a window cleaner, spray the liquid on the cloth first, and then wipe the mirror. Keep the mirror edges dry at all times.

THINGS YOU MUST NOT DO

1. DO NOT install mirrors on new plaster, new masonry or on a freshly painted wall.
2. DO NOT use silicone that contains an algaecide or one that says "mould or fungi resistant". Suitable silicons for copper-free mirror are alkoxy cure or oxime cure.
3. DO NOT use acetic acid based glues or silicones; only neutral cure adhesives. Also, don't use any acid or alkali cleaners on mirrors. Chemicals attack the surface, edges and backing of the mirror.
4. DO NOT install mirrors outdoors without additional engineered protection for the backing and edges of the mirror.
5. DO NOT install mirrors on uneven surfaces. This can cause stress or strain on the mirror, which can cause the surface or backing to crack. It can also cause the mirror to warp, leading to distortion.
6. DO NOT slide one mirror sheet over another, as this will scratch the mirror surfaces.