

AGGA TECHNICAL FACT SHEET

GLASS SPLASHBACKS

Introduction

The use of glass splashbacks has become a popular choice for wall finishes in a growing number of applications.

With an emphasis on innovation and design, glass splashbacks can be used internally and externally, from traditional kitchen application to architectural feature glazing including entry foyers and reception counters.

Glass splashbacks have a number of advantages over other types of wall cladding, including:

- an amazing range of colours and designs;
- relative ease of installation;
- the elimination of many joints; and
- the ease by which it can be cleaned.

Types of glass splashbacks

Traditionally glass splashbacks have come in the form of single colour painted glass. The paint is applied to the rear face of the glass and then adhered to the wall.

Whilst this remains popular, new and exciting methods of producing glass splashbacks have been developed. This includes digital ceramic printing which is fired onto the glass during the toughening process.

Another popular method being used is laminated glass. Having the glass splashback laminated allows a myriad of opportunities for different interlayers between the glass. As with digital printing on glass, high resolution photos and designs can be used to provide the end user with the look and style they desire.

Glass quality

Toughened glass is recommended for glass splashbacks and should be manufactured in accordance with AS/NZS 2208 and AS/NZS 4667 Standards.

Special care should be taken when handling, storing and installing toughened glass to ensure the edges of the glass are not damaged.

Manufacturers of toughened glass have certain requirements when it comes to the position of power point cut-outs and other dimensional tolerances. Consult with your supplier for more information.

Low iron glass is a very popular choice for glass splashbacks. Low iron glass contains minimal green tint and appears clearer, allowing greater colour transmittance.

Site installation

The following points should be considered when installing a glass splashback.

- Glass splashbacks should be installed in accordance with Australian Standard AS1288.
- Ensure the wall surface is clean and dry, and the surface is true and plumb.
- Neutral cure silicone and transparent double sided glazing tape is recommended for adhering the glass to the wall surface.
- Glaziers are not licenced to remove or reinstall electrical power outlets. All electrical work must be carried out by a licenced electrical contractor.
- Special care must also be taken when installing glass splashbacks near gas stovetops. AS5601 outlines the requirements of surrounding gas stovetops with materials which may be of risk of combustion. Similar consideration should be given to electric hot plates.

Cleaning

An advantage of a glass splashbacks is its relative ease of cleaning. General household cleaners recommended for glass cleaning are appropriate. Soft cloth or sponges can be used to remove foreign particles, but steel wool or scourer pads, must not be used as they may damage the glass surface.

Further Reading

- AGGA Technical Fact Sheet—*Glass Splashback Requirements Close to Gas Stovetops*
- HIA Information Sheet—*Splashbacks: Compliance with gas regulations*

Both documents can be downloaded for free from the Knowledge Base on the AGGA website www.agga.org.au

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Disclaimer: The information provided in this document is current at the time of publication. It is intended as a general guide only and the AGGA recommends that you undertake your own investigations when specifying windows and glass products to ensure they comply with all relevant regulations and are fit for purpose.

