



Australian Standard (AS) 1288 sets out the procedures for the appropriate selection and installation of glass in buildings and is referenced in the National Construction Code. In certain locations, such as doors and sidelights, or in other high-risk locations, AS 1288 requires the use of Grade A Safety Glass. Where Grade A Safety Glass is required or used, it must comply with the relevant requirements of AS/NZS 2208 (Safety glazing materials in buildings), including any imported glass.

When it comes to safety glass labelling for cut-to-size and made to size panels, it is important for Glaziers, Builders and Certifiers to be able to understand the minimum marking requirements as listed in the standard. The purpose of this key message is to consider those requirements in detail and subsequently, assist building and industry professionals in avoiding conflicting interpretations of the standard specification.

Excerpt from AS 1288:2006, Clause 5.23.3 Minimum marking requirements:

- a. Each panel shall be marked with the following minimum requirements:
- b. The name, registered trademark or code of the manufacturer or supplier.
- c. The type of safety glass material. This may be in the form of a code as defined in AS/NZS 2208, e.g., T = Toughened.
- d. The Standard to which the safety glass has been tested, e.g., AS/NZS 2208.
- e. The grade of test classification, i.e., A.
- f. A number to indicate the nominal thickness for standard glazing material in millimetres, or a number to indicate the minimum thickness for nonstandard glazing material to the nearest tenth of a millimetre.

AS-1288 states that *“Marking may be by either a label of a type that cannot be removed and re-used or a permanent mark on the glass surface.”* There is no requirement in this standard for marking to be “permanent” and in many cases, such as cut-to-size laminated glass, safety mirror or some toughened glass applications such as Shower Screens, glass may be marked with a removable label that must be of a type that cannot be removed and reused. An example of which is shown in Figure 1 below.

The exception to this is small panels less than 0.3 m² and louvres which may be marked on the edge or near the edge of the glass.

Figure 1 Example of safety label applied to Post Cut Laminated Glass



One of the most common concerns raised by builders, consumers, and most often building certifiers, relates to a lack of safety glass labelling, however in most instances the labels have been removed prior to inspection. Consequently, a certifier has no way to know whether the glass is a safety glass or not. To avoid such situations, AGWA recommends builders ensure safety glass labels, that are non-permanent in nature, remain on the product until after final inspection or handover to the client.

In the event that a safety glass label has been removed prior to certification, it is possible to validate that the subject glass is either toughened or laminated using specialist equipment, however, only the original manufacturer of the glass can certify that it is Grade A Safety Glass conforming to AS/NZS 2208.

Figure 2 Merlin Lazer Gauge



Disclaimer: This key message has been developed to provide general guidance, awareness and education to AGWA members only. It should not be viewed as a definitive guide and should be read in conjunction with the requirements of the National Construction Code (Visit www.abcb.gov.au). While every effort has been made to ensure the information is accurate the AGWA expressly disclaims all and any liability to any person for anything done in reliance on this publication. No responsibility is accepted by the AGWA for any mistakes, errors or omissions in this publication.

Australian Glass and Window Association (AGWA)

a: Pymble Corporate Centre, Suite 1, Level 1, Building 1, 20 Bridge Street, Pymble NSW 2073
t: +61 2 9498 2768 f: +61 2 9498 3816 e: info@agwa.com.au w: www.agwa.com.au