

ADELAIDE WINDOW TINTING

Client Guide: What to Expect & Maintenance

Thank you for choosing Adelaide Window Tinting for your architectural window film installation. With over 23 years of industry experience, we are committed to providing premium quality results that enhance the comfort, privacy, and efficiency of your space. To ensure your new window film looks its best and lasts for years to come, please review the following information regarding the curing process and ongoing maintenance.

What to Expect: The Curing Process

Window film is installed using a specialized water-based mounting solution. While we extract as much of this solution as possible during installation, a micro-layer of moisture remains trapped between the glass and the film. This is a standard part of the installation process.

- **Water Bubbles & Haze:** You may notice small water bubbles or a slightly cloudy/hazy appearance in the film. Do not pierce, press, or attempt to push these bubbles out. They will evaporate naturally as the film cures.
- **Dry-Out Time:** The complete curing process typically takes anywhere from 30 to 60 days. The exact timeframe depends on the film thickness (e.g., thicker safety, security, or frosted films take longer to dry out), weather conditions, and whether the film is an internal or external application.
- **Edge Sealing:** For certain external applications or wet-glaze security systems, an edge silicone sealant may have been applied. Please allow this to fully cure completely untouched for at least 48 hours.

Care and Cleaning Guidelines

Modern architectural window films feature a highly durable, scratch-resistant hardcoat, but they still require proper care to maintain their clarity, thermal performance, and longevity. Please adhere to the current industry best practices for both residential and commercial applications:

- **Wait 30 Days Before First Clean:** Do not attempt to clean the windows for at least 30 days following installation. This ensures the pressure-sensitive adhesive has adequate time to bond fully to the glass.

- **Ammonia-Free Cleaners Only:** Always use ammonia-free cleaning solutions. Ammonia will rapidly degrade the film's scratch-resistant coating and adhesive. A simple solution of warm water mixed with a few drops of mild dish soap or baby shampoo is the safest and most effective method. Commercial ammonia-free glass cleaners are also approved.
- **Use Soft Materials:** Only use clean, soft microfiber cloths, soft synthetic sponges, or specialized glass cleaning cloths to wash and dry the film.
- **Avoid Abrasives:** Never use scouring pads, steel wool, brushes, baking soda, or standard paper towels. Many paper towels contain coarse wood fibers that will introduce micro-scratches into the film over time.
- **Squeegee Safely:** You may use a professional-grade rubber squeegee to dry the windows, provided the blade is smooth and the handle does not have sharp metal edges that could nick or gouge the film.
- **No Tape or Suction Cups:** Do not apply suction cups, masking tape, blue tack, or sticky adhesives directly to the film surface. Removing them can permanently delaminate the film or pull it away from the glass.

If you have any questions or concerns during the curing process, or if you need to discuss future residential or commercial projects, please don't hesitate to reach out. We appreciate your business.