

Rex GLASS Mirror Cleaning and Maintenance

Keeping Your Mirrors Pristine for Years

Mirrors are more than just functional items; they are elegant features that enhance light, space, and style in any room. To preserve their clarity, brilliance, and extend their lifespan, consistent and proper care is essential. Understanding the common issues and the best practices for cleaning will ensure your mirrors remain beautiful investments for years to come.



Protecting Your Mirror from ‘Black Edge’

What is Black Edge?

“Black Edge,” or de-silvering, is a common and irreversible form of mirror degradation. It appears as dark discoloration, often resembling black lines or spots, along the mirror’s edges. This occurs when the reflective silvering on the back of the mirror begins to oxidize and corrode, detaching from the glass itself.

What Causes Black Edge?

The primary culprit is moisture contact with the mirror’s silvered backing. This can happen in several ways:

- **Condensation:** High humidity or steam, especially in bathrooms, allows moisture to seep into mirror edges.
- **Overspray:** Direct spraying of water, cleaner, hairspray, or other aerosols can trickle down behind the mirror.
- **Harsh Chemicals:** Aggressive, acidic, or alkaline cleaner can accelerate the backing’s breakdown if they reach the edges.

How to Properly Clean Your Mirrors:

Follow these detailed steps to safely clean your mirrors, ensuring both their pristine appearance and integrity:

- **Choose the Right Cleaner:** We highly recommend **Rex Glass Foaming Glass Cleaner**. It’s ammonia-free, **making it perfectly safe for mirror surfaces, leaving no film and a streak-free finish**. You can also use clean, warm water for a simple, effective clean.
- **Avoid Harmful Cleaners: NEVER** use abrasive, acidic, or alkaline cleaners, or those containing ammonia or vinegar. These common household chemicals can corrode the silver backing and protective layers of your mirror, leading to damage, including black edge. Many standard window cleaners fall into this harmful category.

- **Apply to Cloth, Not Mirror:** Always apply your mirror-safe cleaner directly onto a **soft, clean, lint-free microfiber cloth or a soft cotton towel. DO NOT spray the cleaner directly onto the mirror surface.** Direct spraying allows liquid to seep into the edges, where it can be drawn underneath the mirror causing damage
- **Clean Strategically:** When cleaning a single mirror, wipe from the center outwards. For adjoining wall mirrors, always wipe in the same direction as the joints. This prevents cleaning solution from accumulating in the seams, which could lead to moisture-related issues over time.
- **Dry Thoroughly:** After cleaning, immediately and carefully dry all surfaces. Pay particular attention to all joints and exposed mirror edges using a separate, clean, dry, lint-free cloth.

*Tip: To prevent or slow the onset of black edge, **always keep your mirror’s edges dry**. Ensure good ventilation in humid areas, and promptly wipe away any moisture from the mirror’s perimeter.*

Questions About Mirror Care or Need Assistance?

Investing a little time in proper mirror maintenance can significantly extend the beauty and life of your mirrors. If you have any further questions about mirror care, please don’t hesitate to reach out!

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