



PLANIBEL EASY CLEAR - EASY BLUE

CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE GUIDE

VERSION 1.0 – DECEMBER 2017

This version of the guide replaces and cancels all previous versions.
Please check www.agc-yourglass.com regularly for any updates.

WARNING

Read this manual carefully before performing any cleaning or maintenance work on facade glazing.



Important Preliminary Instructions

Planibel Easy Clear and Easy Blue are, by their very nature, durable, tough and easy to maintain. By following the guidelines in this document, you can ensure they stay clean and bright for many years.

IMPORTANT:

- The self-cleaning property of Planibel Easy Clear and Easy Blue is not activated until the glass has been exposed to UV light from the sun for approximately one week.
 - In long periods of dry weather, the glass can be rinsed manually with clean water to simply wash away the dust.
-
- Prohibited products:
 - All products containing hydrofluoric acid or fluorine derivatives are prohibited since they can damage the coating and the surface of the glass
 - Highly acidic and alkaline products are prohibited, as they are abrasive.
 - Ensure chemical compatibility between the products used and other components (seals, paints used on the frame, aluminium, stone, etc.).
 - When performing the special cleaning regimen, always start with a trial on a small area.
 - Do not wash the glass when it is fully exposed to the sun. Avoid washing it when it is too cold or hot.
 - Take advantage of the washing process to inspect the seals, drainage and frame.
 - Make sure that cloths, squeegees and other tools are in good condition at all times.
 - Carefully read the manual(s) for any chemical agents and detergents used. Follow the instructions. When in doubt, contact the manufacturer. Try to minimise their use.

CONTENTS

1. ORDINARY CLEANING REGIMEN.....	5
2. FREQUENCY	5
3. SPECIAL CLEANING REGIMEN.....	5
4. INITIAL CLEANING AFTER THE GLASS IS INSTALLED (END OF PROJECT)	6
5. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR Planibel Easy Clear and Easy Blue	6
6. PREVENTION	6

1. ORDINARY CLEANING REGIMEN

Coated glass - specifically Planibel Easy Clear and Easy Blue - has a metal oxide coating that is applied to the glass. These coatings are highly resistant and durable but do not forget that a transparent and very thin metal surface is being washed.

In most cases, Planibel Easy Clear and Easy Blue can be washed with plenty of clean water. Sometimes a bit of neutral detergent may be added to the water.

Once cleaned, the glass should be rinsed with clean water and wiped with a soft cloth.

Important

Be careful, using a squeegee with rubber or a pressure washer could damage the coating.

2. FREQUENCY

Regular cleaning of those products should not normally be necessary. How often the glass needs to be cleaned depends on the surrounding environmental conditions and pollution levels. Glass gets dirtier in dusty, industrial areas, in areas with lots of road traffic, near the sea, and when it is not exposed to much rain.

Failure to take certain precautions when designing the facade or installing the glass can also play a role.(e.g. a roof glazing should have a slope of at least 10°).

3. SPECIAL CLEANING REGIMEN

When ordinary cleaning is not enough, other steps can be taken:

- Remove oily spots and other organic pollution with solvents such as isopropyl alcohol or acetone applied with a soft, clean cloth.
- Rinse thoroughly and then follow the ordinary cleaning regimen.

Important

- Any scratching will penetrate the surface of the coating and cannot be repaired.
- Avoid any contact with metal object.
- Any excessive mechanical treatment might remove the coating in localised areas.
- Avoid any chemical that would attack the surface and damage it irreparably. Abrasive cleaners, cream cleaners, and functional (e.g anti-mist) type products must not be used on Planibel Easy Clear and Planibel Easy Blue, as they will damage the coating.

4. INITIAL CLEANING AFTER THE GLASS IS INSTALLED (END OF PROJECT)

When glass is cleaned for the first time after being installed (end of project), it may be particularly dirty. We recommend the following procedure:

- Remove labels and adhesive cork or interlayers as soon as possible. If there is any difficulty in doing so, solvents such as methanol, isopropanol, and acetone may be used.
- Fingerprints and grease or mastic stains can be removed with solvents such as acetone, and methylethyceton (MEC), provided that these products do not attack the seals and penetrate into the rebate.
- Rinse thoroughly to remove as much dust as possible.
- Perform the ordinary cleaning regimen. Examine any remaining dirty marks.
- There is a risk of scratching the glass, so take great care at all times. This is especially true for coated glass.
- Silicone sealants can exude oil or plasticisers containing silicones. You should NOT use it in contact with Planibel Easy Clear and Planibel Easy Blue.

5. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR PLANIBEL EASY CLEAR AND EASY BLUE IN SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENT

In areas with high levels of pollution, treatments and products supplied by experienced professionals are essential.

Coastal areas:

In coastal areas, the Planibel Easy coated surface of the glass can be deposited by salt which can dry or crystallise. **As salt is inorganic, it is not broken down by the photocatalytic action of Planibel Easy coating.** Although some deposits will be washed away by rainfall, that may not be enough to remove all of them and additional cleaning may be required. During a long period of dry weather or for especially heavy contamination, consumers may wish to hose down or wash the glass. This will make the Planibel Easy considerably cleaner than usual glass in the same circumstances, with the additional benefit of not having to manually dry the glass.

Hard water areas:

If the installation is in an area with exceptionally hard water (i.e. greater than 180 ppm combined content of calcium carbonate, CaCO₃ and magnesium carbonate (MgCO₃)) then rinsing water should be softened with a domestic water softener or by adding detergent (a couple of drops of dishwashing detergent) to the water.

6. PREVENTION

Taking steps to prevent the build-up of dirt is the best way to prevent cleaning problems and lower cleaning costs. For example:

During the design phase:

- Make sure that water drainage and discharge systems are in place to prevent runoffs of polluted water over the glass. Water tends to gather pollutants as it runs over bricks, concrete, zinc, roofing materials and so on.

- Make sure that it is possible to gain access to the glass so that it can be cleaned.

During the installation phase:

- Prevent runoff from plaster, concrete, rust, excessive dust, etc.
- Prevent pollution and paint splatters, facade treatment products, etc.
- Prevent metal from welding or grinding from coming into contact with the glass. This kind of damage cannot be repaired.
- Where necessary, protect the glass with a tarpaulin or plastic sheet, making sure to provide a dry, well ventilated air space.
- Do not use sealants, putties, oils, silicones, etc. that leave streaks on the glass.
- Comply with the instruction manuals.
- Follow the glazing instructions (see www.agc-yourglass.com).