Care & Handling for Optium® & StaticShield®

Products include:

- (UV) Optium Museum Acrylic®
- (UV) StaticShield® Acrylic
- Optium Acrylic®

Handling

- Cotton gloves should be worn to minimize fingerprints and other particles.
- Acrylic sheets are covered with a protective white poly film on each surface. This film prevents scratching during handling and cutting and should be left in place on the sheet as long as possible. To remove the film, start at one corner or side and roll the film on to a scrap cardboard core or on to itself. The film should never be exposed to excessive sunlight or outdoor conditions for extended periods of time.

When Shipping

- If shipping framed pieces horizontally, be sure to accommodate for flexing of the sheet to avoid vibration or rubbing against the surface of the artwork.
- Works glazed with acrylic need no film/glass skin when shipping.
- Allow 24 hours for climatizing before exhibiting. Condensation will leave water spots on the coatings.

Storage

- Avoid storing in areas where condensation might occur.
- Use 2-ply rag board or pH neutral paper for interleaf during storage. Proper interleafing during storage enables reuse.
- When storing vertically, lean acrylic sheets at an angle of approximately 10 degrees to prevent bowing.
- The masking should never be exposed to excessive sunlight or outdoor conditions for extended periods of time.
- If storing sheets horizontally, stack the larger sheets at the bottom to prevent bowing.
- Acrylic sheet should not be stored near radiators, steam pipes, in direct sunlight, or near other heat sources as excessive heat tends to soften and deform the sheet.
- Although acrylic glazing does not require a climate controlled environment for long-term storage, we recommend removing any protective film masking and use pH neutral paper to separate the parts.
- Acrylic glazing is not effected by standard museum environments or normal warehouse temperatures, and can withstand extreme temperatures of minus 30 degrees F (-34 degrees C) to 160 degrees F (71 degrees C) when storing or shipping.

- If storing framed pieces, please note that acrylic expands and contracts, so allow for size variation in frame systems.

Removing Scratches

- Do not hand polish or buff scratches in this product as it may cause damage to the coating.
- Abrasion-resistant properties prevent mild scratching, but not deep scratches.
- Cuts by hard objects cannot be repaired.

Cutting

- Leave the protective masking on the sheet when cutting.
- Gauges up to 4.5mm can be cut with the same methods used to cut other acrylic or “plexi”, using a multi-material cutter “scribe and break” method. Score the sheet multiple times and then snap to break.
- Gauges 6.0mm and above can be fabricated with a power saw and saw blade specifically designed to cut acrylic.
- Optium Acrylic Glazing should NOT be cut with a laser. The extreme heat can cause crazing, which may lead to delamination of the coating.

Cleaning

Materials to Use

- 2 Micro-fiber cloths — one for wet cleaning, one for drying. If micro-fiber cloths need to be laundered, do not use fabric softener.
- Isopropyl alcohol.
- Distilled water.
- Gloves (optional).

Wet method cleaning

- Mix water and isopropyl alcohol 1:1.
- Spray on micro-fiber cloth.
- Use cloth to clean glazing.
- Optional: dry off with second cloth.

Dry method cleaning

- Spot-clean any finger prints with the dry micro-fiber cloth by wiping in a soft, circular motion.

Alternative method of cleaning

- Non-ammonia glass cleaner may be used to clean Optium Acrylic Glazing products.
- DO NOT use acrylic cleaners or polishing agents.

Optional (for removal of all traces of P-tape residue)

- Mix a couple drops of dish detergent with distilled water.
- Use on micro-fiber cloth to clean surface of glazing.
- Rinse with distilled water to ensure removal of any detergent residue and dry off with second cloth.

https://tru-vue.com/products/care-handling/