



Transparent Armor Cleaning Guide

APPROVED METHODS AND MATERIALS

Transparent armor (also called bullet-resistant glass or ballistic glazing) is made by laminating several layers of glass and plastic with sheets of adhesive material. Most laminates produced by Ibis Tek use a no-spall design that provides protection from one direction only. The side facing oncoming threats is called the “threat side” and the side facing the user is called the “safe side.” For these designs, the threat side will always be labeled. If your product fits this description,* follow the instructions below:

THREAT SIDE:

The outer surface of the laminate is almost always a hard material such as glass. It can be cleaned using the same methods as an ordinary automotive windshield.

- Avoid pressure washing with hot water.
- Avoid sudden temperature changes.

SAFE SIDE:

The inner surface of the laminate is almost always made of polycarbonate. This soft plastic is coated to increase scratch resistance, but still requires special care during cleaning.

- Remove grit particles from the inner polycarbonate surface by blowing with clean filtered air or gentle brushing with a soft brush.
- If necessary, wash the inside surface with a lukewarm water/mild household detergent solution, rinse and dry using a moistened chamois or sponge.
- Stubborn marks can be removed by rubbing lightly with a soft and clean cloth dipped into isopropyl alcohol or kerosene, followed by washing as described above.
- Do not wipe with dry or dirty rags. They will cause hazing.
- Do not scrape with razors or squeegees. Sharp implements will scratch the polycarbonate.
- Do not try to remove scratches with abrasive cleaners. Specialized products must be purchased in order to repair scratched polycarbonate.

GENERAL:

Transparent armor is resistant to accidental, brief contact with many fluids; however, prolonged exposure of the edges to moisture can cause delamination.

- Take care that water or other liquids do not collect in the frame or mounting cavity
- Do not use organic solvents such as benzene, gasoline, acetone, or MEK (methyl ethyl ketone)

With proper care, your transparent armor can provide years of service. Please call Ibis Tek if there are any additional questions or concerns.

*Armor designs for handgun threats sometimes use all plastic laminates, polycarbonate-clad glass, or even monolithic sheets of plastic. Alternatively, glass-clad polycarbonate (low-spall) designs have glass on both exposed surfaces. If unsure about your product’s design, use the Safe Side cleaning instructions for all surfaces.