

Glass is a brittle material

When considering glazing into an area that is considered a Human Impact area, we need to use either safety glass or a thicker annealed glass.

This does not assume that the glass will not be broken at any time only that should it break it will do so to limit the likelihood of cutting or piercing injuries.

The requirements for the glazing of doors are the same for residential and non-residential use. Glazed doors of all operational types are included, for example, hinged, sliding, folding and stacking, etc.

Glazing in doors and glazing within 300 mm of door openings with the nearest vertical sightlines less than 300 mm from the nearest edge of the doorway opening, wholly or partially within 1200 mm from floor or ground level, must be Grade a safety glass that complies with the maximum areas of safety glazing as set out in AS 1288 Table 5.1.



Accident statistics show that glazing in some locations in buildings is more vulnerable to human impact than in others.



These critical locations include:

- (a) In and around doors (particularly in side panels which may be mistaken for doors).
- (b) Panels mistaken for a doorway or opening.
- (c) Panels at low levels in walls and partitions.
- (d) Bathrooms, spa rooms and ensuites.
- (e) Buildings associated with special activities, for example, gymnasiums, enclosed swimming pools, etc.

- (f) Schools and childcare facilities.
- (g) Nursing homes and aged care facilities. Where glazing is within 2000 mm above the finished floor level (or external ground level) of all buildings it is considered likely to be subjected to human impact and must comply with the human impact safety requirements of AS 1288







- Small panels in doors 4mm annealed glass is permitted to a maximum of 0.1 m2 with a maximum panel width of 125mm.
- Small panels in doors 5mm and 6mm annealed glass is permitted to a maximum of 0.26 m2 with a maximum panel width of 300mm.
- Unframed doors other than those in bathrooms shall be glazed with toughened safety glass with a minimum of 10mm thickness.





Glass which has its vertical sight line within 300mm of door opening

- A minimum of 5mm ordinary annealed glass may be used up to a maximum area of 0.3m2
- For decorated glass 3mm and 4mm glass



3 Class which could be mistaken for a doorway or opening

Ask Yourself

⁶⁶ Could anyone mistake the panel for a doorway or opening and walk into glass⁹⁹?

If YES, use Grade A safety glass



** NOTE: The panel cannot be mistaken if:

- Opening is equal to or less than 500mm wide.
- Lowest sight line is 500mm* above floor.
- The sight size height is less than 1000mm.
- The glazing is opaque or patterned.
- A chair rail is provided with its upper edge not less than 700mm and its top edge not more than 1000mm above the floor level.
- The panels are louvres with a blade width not greater than 230mm.
- A difference in floor level of 1000mm.



Figure 18 Human Impact Critical Locations Source: AS 1288 and Australian Window Association















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