

### What is Aurora Mirastar?

Quite simply it is a mirror. However a mirror with unique properties as it is a chromium coating which makes the mirror:

- Heat resistant
- Moisture resistant
- Suitable for toughening

These characteristics allow it to be used where other mirrors cannot.

### Where can Aurora Mirastar be used that conventional silver mirrors cannot?

- In bathrooms as a splashback – conventional mirror would not tolerate such a wet environment.
- As a showerscreen – either Frameless or Grange – instead of glass. Conventional mirror cannot be toughened nor would it tolerate the moisture.
- As a wall partition – as it is toughened glass it can be used anywhere where frameless glass can be used.
- As a splashback in a kitchen – it is toughened and moisture resistant so it will cope with the knocks, heat and humidity in the kitchen.

### What makes Aurora Mirastar different?

Conventional mirror is produced by applying silver paint to the back of a glass panel. The copper in this is susceptible to moisture causing edge creep and the glass cannot be toughened.

Mirastar is produced by applying a chromium coating to one of the surfaces of the glass panel. It is the use of a chromium coating that gives Aurora Mirastar its unique qualities.

### Two mirrors in one

Despite chromium only being applied to one surface of the glass, the coating has the effect of creating a reflective surface on both sides of the panel i.e. which ever side you look at, it will still act as a mirror.

Aurora Mirastar will always act as an effective mirror when applied to a wall. However when used as a wall partition or showerscreen be aware that the reflectivity will vary depending on the lighting conditions on either side of the panel. Aurora Mirastar is in fact not completely opaque, and can thus be used as a one-way mirror under certain lighting conditions. If one room is dark, the glass produces a mirror effect in the lighter room while making it possible to see through the glass from the dark room. A change in light source from one side to the other will reverse the one-way effect.

### What are the limitations of Aurora Mirastar?

In simple terms very few. Aurora Mirastar can be used anywhere you would place a splashback today and anywhere you would use frameless glass. It can be cut, arressed, polished and toughened just like any conventional glass.

The maximum size for a single Aurora Mirastar panel is 1500mm × 2500mm.

### What thicknesses does Aurora Mirastar come in?

- 6mm – used when the product is applied to a wall i.e. splashbacks.
- 10mm – used when a panel is free-standing i.e. wall partitions and showerscreens.

### Using Aurora Mirastar as a showerscreen or wall partition

Though very difficult the coating can be scratched. Accordingly the coated surface of the Aurora Mirastar should be placed on the outside of the showerscreen rather than the inside where the cleaning process is more rigorous and frequent.

### Applying Aurora Mirastar to a wall

When applied to a wall as a splashback or a mirror, the coated surface must be placed next to the wall. To ensure that the silicone and tape used to adhere the panel to the wall do not show through we will apply a coat of paint on top of the chromium coating. The colour of this paint is black.

### Aurora Mirastar and Aurora V-Groove

Grooves can be applied to Aurora Mirastar. However, in doing so on the coated side the reflective coating is removed leaving:

- A clear section of glass in a showerscreen or wall partition.
- The colour of the backing paint in a splashback application.

This effect can be dramatic and impressive but it will no longer be a continuous mirror.

### **How to order Aurora Mirastar?**

The order process is the same as any other products used for the same purpose, that is:

- Frameless or Grange showerscreens
- Splashbacks

### **What are the lead times?**

Your Aurora Glass sales representative will take you through this process. The lead times are exactly the same as products using conventional glass and mirror, such as:

- Frameless
- Grange
- Splashbacks

Each will have different lead times that will vary from time to time. Please consult an Aurora Glass sales representative for further information.

### **Aurora Mirastar and cleaning**

Cleaning of the glass, as well as removal of residue from stickers and spacing pads is to be carried out with mild cleaning agents. The following notes are for cleaning the coated surface of Aurora Mirastar, the non-coated surface should be cleaned as for normal glass. Normal soiling should be dealt with as described above however, abrasive agents e.g. scouring pads or steel wool must not be used. Sharp edged tools such as razor blades and scrapers may cause fine scratches in the surface and must not be used.

Stubborn spots of soiling e.g. paint, tarspots or adhesive residues, should be removed using suitable solvents e.g. white spirit, acetone or petrol and then cleaned with water. It is important to ensure that any solvents used do not come into contact with gaskets or other organic materials (silicone joints) as they may become damaged.

### **Unsuitable cleaning agents**

Strong alkali solutions as well as acids, particularly liquid acids, and cleaning agents containing fluoride should never be used. These solutions may irreparably damage the coating and/or the glass surface. The cleaning of the glass should be carried out in accordance with recognised industry standards.

### **How to identify the coated surface of Aurora Mirastar**

Press the tip of your fingernail lightly against the glass, the coated surface will show your fingernail touching its reflection at a point. If you are viewing the non-coated surface your fingernail will never meet its reflection and a distinct gap can be seen.

### **Handling instructions**

All processing stages are to be carried out with the coated side facing upwards i.e. without the coated side coming into contact with resting surface so as to avoid any damage to the coating layer. This applies to both toughened and non-toughened Aurora Mirastar.

When handling the coated surface of Aurora Mirastar without a protective film applied always wear clean, dry and non-seamed gloves otherwise damage could be caused to the coating layer. Do not wipe over the layer with gloves, paper or similar. The layer is to be protected from any contact or rubbing with rough surfaces or hard objects.

### **Guarantee**

Toughened glass, float glass, laminated glass, painted glass, high performance glass and framed mirror glass are guaranteed against defects and degradation for a period of three years, but do require ongoing maintenance to not void the guarantee.