

3M™ Sun Control Window Film Prestige Exterior Series

Application Solutions for Unique Situations

Technical Bulletin
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There are certain situations to be aware of where an interior film hardcoat can be impacted by exposure to outside elements, high moisture, or direct sunlight, and the better solution in these cases may be to use 3M Prestige Exterior. Although designed for exterior use, Prestige Exterior can be applied to the interior surface - the multilayer optical film (MOF) technology works in both directions and its durable, UV-stable hardcoat will better protect the film for some of these unique situations. Here are some examples to be mindful of:

- **The inside surface of the window is exposed to outside elements**
 - Certain windows open in a way that allow the interior surface to be directly exposed to the outside elements for long periods of time, in essence creating an exterior environment for the interior film.
 - Examples include casement windows, awning windows, bifold doors/windows, and sliding doors (see figures 1, 3, and 4).
 - **Apply Prestige Exterior to the interior surface of the window.**
- **Exposure to frequent splashback, steam, or significant moisture/condensation**
 - Examples may include windows above a tap, open windows very close to water, and some indoor swimming pools (see figures 2 and 5).
 - **Use Prestige Exterior on the interior or exterior surface of the windows**
 - **For windows that may experience splashback, harsh cleaning methods/chemicals, or are constantly wet, apply Prestige Exterior to the outside surface OR leave them unfilmed.**
- **Direct sunlight exposure to the interior window surface**
 - Interior window films do not contain a UV-blocker in their hardcoats and if the film surface is exposed to direct sunlight, then typically within 6 months the film will start to turn cloudy/milky as the hardcoat breaks down (see figures 4 and 6).
 - **Apply Prestige Exterior to the interior surface of the window.**



Figure 1: Hardcoat breakdown of an interior window film that was applied to bifold doors.



Figure 2: Vertical sliding windows right off the water that exposed an interior window film to significant moisture/condensation, causing the hardcoat to break down.



Figure 3: Interior window film applied to casement windows, that turned milky/cloudy over time from being exposed to outside elements.

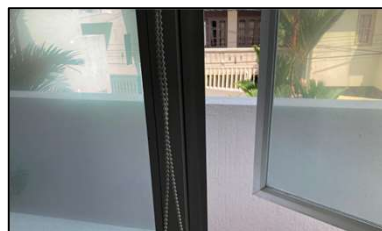


Figure 4: These windows opened in a way that exposed the interior face to sunlight and outside elements, causing the hardcoat to break down.

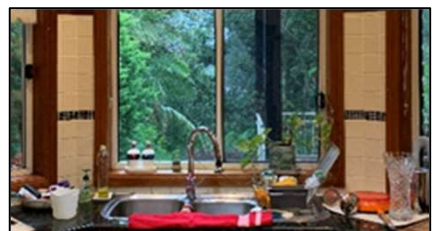


Figure 5: These kitchen windows could potentially be exposed to splashback, steam, and/or harsh cleaning chemicals/methods.

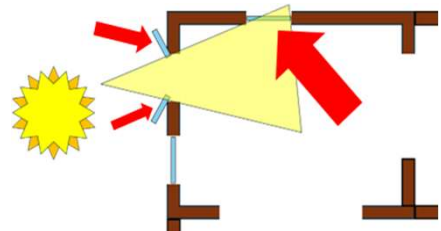


Figure 6: A top-down view of a room where the interior surfaces of windows are exposed to direct sunlight.

Education of the homeowner during the quotation process is critical to getting their understanding that this unique 3M solution will give them greater durability & value, as well as leading to more successful sales for the installer!