

## The benefits of Pilkington Activ™

- The world's first self-cleaning glass.
- Saves you time and money, and is safer than cleaning your own windows.
- Unique coating breaks down and loosens even heavy organic soiling.
- Can be used in almost any domestic application – ideal for conservatories and windows.
- Will not be worn away or rubbed off under normal conditions – lasts the lifetime of the glazing itself.
- Easily cleaned during dry spells by hosing down or wiping with a soft cloth and warm soapy water.
- Also available – Pilkington Activ™ Blue, combining self-cleaning properties with solar control performance for conservatory roofs.
- Can be used in conjunction with other Pilkington glass products to provide increased energy efficiency and save on heating bills.
- Created and manufactured by the world's leading glass producer – Pilkington.



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Pilkington Activ™



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Pilkington Activ™  
The world's first self-cleaning  
glass with advanced dual action  
for superior results



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## A revolution in glass

Self-cleaning glass has been described as an impossible dream. Yet, following intensive research and development by Pilkington – the world's leading glass manufacturer – Pilkington **Activ**™ does just that.

Its unique dual action uses the forces of nature to continually clean itself, giving you not only the practical benefit of less cleaning, but also clearer, better-looking windows.

## How Pilkington **Activ**™ works

### The dual action process

The secret of Pilkington **Activ**™ is its special coating, which works in two stages:

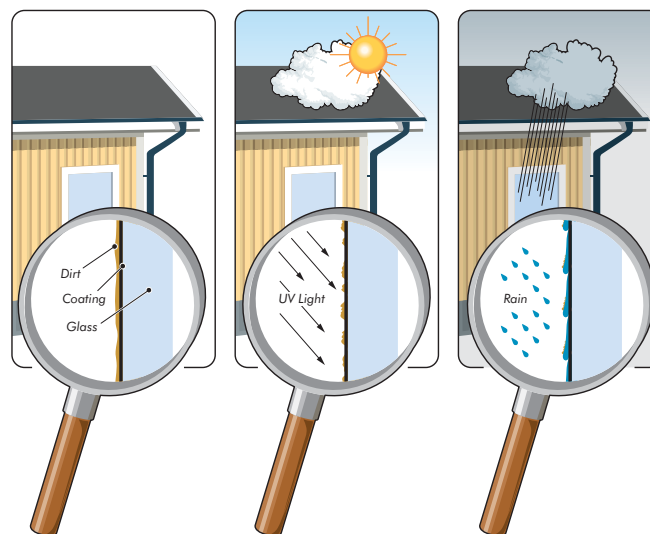
#### Breaking down organic dirt

Firstly, the coating reacts with ultra-violet (UV) rays from natural daylight to break down and disintegrate organic dirt (see figures 1 & 2).

Organic dirt generally comes from living plants and animals e.g. bird droppings or tree sap, while inorganic dirt comes from other, non-living sources e.g. cement or plaster.

#### Washing dirt away

The second part of the process happens when water hits the glass. Rain water runs down the glass to wash the loosened dirt (both organic and inorganic) away. Inorganic dirt will only be removed by water. Compared with conventional glass, the water dries very quickly, reducing unsightly streaks or marks (see figure 3).



**Figure 1:**  
**Coating is activated by UV light**  
After installation the special coating needs 5 to 7 days' exposure to daylight to activate fully

**Figure 2:**  
**Organic dirt is broken down**  
The coating breaks down organic dirt and by doing so, reduces the adherence of inorganic dirt

**Figure 3:**  
**Rain washes dirt away**  
Water droplets spread out to form a 'sheet', dirt particles on the surface are picked up by water and washed off glass – a remarkable difference you can actually see

## Some frequently asked questions

### Will my windows ever need cleaning?

We cannot say that your windows will never need cleaning – that depends on the amount of dirt and the amount of rain the glass in your window receives. Pilkington **Activ**™ reduces the amount of maintenance required. If cleaning is necessary – such as during long dry spells or if your windows are heavily soiled – it will be much less frequent and much easier than with conventional glass, either by hosing with water to replicate rainfall or using a soft cloth and warm soapy water.

### Does it work on cloudy days and at night?

Pilkington **Activ**™ needs only a small amount of UV radiation to activate the coating – so it works even on overcast days and through the night.

### Will the glass in my windows look any different?

From certain angles they will have a slightly greater reflective quality than ordinary glass, with an attractive faint blue tint. Otherwise, the glass is like any other.

### Can the coating be scratched or rubbed off?

The coating is integral to the glass – it will not flake off or discolour, so it can only be affected if the surface itself is damaged; for example, by pointed objects, abrasive cleaners or steel wool.

### Where can Pilkington **Activ**™ be used?

It is suitable for almost any exterior application, such as windows, conservatories, façades and glass roofs, and is especially useful for inaccessible windows where organic dirt normally collects, such as skylights.

### Can it be combined with other types of glass?

In insulating glass units, Pilkington **Activ**™ can be used with other Pilkington products to provide thermal insulation, noise reduction, solar control and fire protection. It is also available toughened or laminated for added safety. Also, Pilkington **Activ**™ Blue offers self-cleaning properties with solar control performance.

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