

Dusting and Cleaning Acrylic Glazing

Artwork is often framed using acrylic rather than glass. **When cleaning or dusting acrylic, use a smooth microfiber cloth**, never a paper towel. Microfiber will not scratch the delicate surface of acrylic glazing, unlike some rags. A soft, clean cotton cloth is an acceptable alternative when microfiber is not available. Microfiber also traps dirt more easily than other cloths due to the structure of its fibers, allowing you to get into the corners of the frame to remove dust without using undue pressure or damaging any part of the frame. Microfiber are machine washable and reusable (do not use bleach or fabric softener when washing).

The best cleaners for acrylic are those made specifically for cleaning acrylic and other plastics. Other cleaners may create haze or leave scratches. Alcohol-based and ammonia-based cleaners are especially hard on acrylic and can create permanent damage. Many common glass cleaners contain ammonia, which should not be used on plastics. Pay close attention to the type of cleaner you use on the acrylic. If you don't have an appropriate cleaner on hand, you can simply dampen your cloth with distilled or tap water.

When acrylic glazing is very dusty, or there are larger particles on the surface, it is best to blow those off before wiping, or lightly wipe with a dry cloth prior to using cleaner or water, as larger particles may scratch the surface of your glazing even though the microfiber will not.