



Spandrel Glass Specifications

‘Spandrel’ refers to the area between the floors of a commercial building that contains the heating/wiring/plumbing infrastructure. Spandrel is any product that spans this section and blocks the interior view from the outside. It can range from aluminum panel to brick to opaque glass products. WA Wilson fabricates ceramic coated Spandrel glass as part of our TempRite tempering division.

We cut annealed glass to size and send it on a horizontal conveyor through a double roll coater that deposits ceramic based paint on the top glass surface. The glass is then carried by conveyor into a baking oven to quickly dry the paint, and then on through our furnace to ‘fire; the paint into the glass surface, producing either heat treated or fully tempered Spandrel. Once it exits the furnace and air quench the Spandrel ceramic ‘frit’ is fused into the surface of the glass, creating a surface as hard as the glass itself.

It is important to note that the coating rollers begin contacting the glass approximately ¼” in from the leading edge of the glass. This prevents the ceramic paint from running off the front edge and down onto the conveyor bed. Normally this ¼” edge delegation is hidden from view when the Spandrel is placed into the glazing pocket. If Spandrel glass is not glazed into a pocket this ¼ edge deletion will be visible along one short glass edge dimension.

Spandrel can be glazed either as a single lite or as an insulated unit. Normally as an insulated unit the Spandrel coating is glazed on the #4 (indoor) surface if the outboard lite is tinted, thus matching the outward appearance of the other vision units. It can also be glazed on the #2 (inside) surface of the clear outboard lite to achieve a metallic-like appearance when viewed from the building’s exterior.

ASTM C-1048 establishes the industry standards for coating criteria during the fabrication of Spandrel coated glass. A complete text of this copy written document is available for purchase at www.astm.org

When Spandrel glass is placed in a vertical position in front of an opaque material and viewed at a distance of 180” (15 feet) at a 90 degree angle, with natural light reflected from the glass surface, any pinholes up to 1/8” in diameter and scratches up to 3” in length are acceptable. WA Wilson fabricates Spandrel coating on 6mm ¼ glass. Our minimum glass size is 12” x 24”, while vision samples are supplied as 12” x 12”. Our maximum glass width is 80”