## SUGGESTED INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPER INSTALLTION & CARE OF ANTIQUE MIRRORS*

*Glass Dynamics, LLC is not responsible for any damage related to installation of the products we sell. Glass Dynamics, LLC does not provide installation services. The care and installation instructions from antique mirrors come from their manufacturere, which is not Glass Dynamics, LLC. Please note that antique mirrors are hand silvered as decorative mirrors and should not be treated the same as commerical mirrors. Again, Glass Dynamics is not responsible for any installation related issures. This is expressed in out terms and conditions of sale.

### SURFACE PREPARATION

Antique mirrors can be applied to most surfaces that are reasonably straight and even, such as plaster and painted surfaces. All surfaces MUST BE SEALED AND CLEANED before applying mirrors. Shellac is an excellent sealer, especially over new drywall or plywood. However, mirrors should never be applied over fresh plaster without first artificially “aging” with prepared solutions. Plaster should be equivalent of at least one year old; and MUST BE SEALED before applying mirrors. If the wall surface is very rough such as brick or concrete blocks, it is suggested that the wall area is covered with 1/4" plywood or drywall, and painted with shellac before applying mirrors.

### WALL APPLICATION

DO NOT mount mirrors flush against walls. This causes stress and abrasion on walls that are not plumb. It can cause “puddling” (collecting pockets of cleaning solution or water that attack the mirror backing). DO LET the mirror “breathe” by mounting about 1/8” or more from the wall to prevent “puddling”. A straight baseboard or chair rail is an excellent starting point. However, DON’T rest the supporting bottom edge directly on a rail or baseboard which can cause “puddling” of the critical edge area. Raise the supporting bottom edge with lead or other spacers.

### SPACING

In installation and setting, separation between each mirror is important. Black Polyken Spacer Tape is recommended. In using this tape, the accepted procedure is to fold the tape down over the edge of the mirror by pressing down over both front and back (one thickness is all that is necessary). Or, if chipboard or matchbook spacers are used, be sure to remove them after the wall is “set-up” (about 72 hours) otherwise sulfur, often found in cardboard, is likely to cause discoloration along the edge of the mirror.

### MOUNTING METHODS (ADHENSIVE, HARDWARE, TWO -FACE TAPE, ETC.)

Mounting mirrors with various types of mirror hardware is suggested by many as the most secure method. Some adhesive and tape will attack mirror backing. If adhesive is used, apply it directly to the mirror – use the equivalent in mastic (such as Gunther Mirror Mastic) to the size of a quarter, about 1/4" thick (or larger) depending on the size and the weight of mirror. The adhesive should not be applied too close to the edge of the mirror, as when the mirror is “scooted” into position, the mastic might bleed out beyond the edge. The mirror should be positioned and pressed to the wall and then “scooted” gently to “set” the adhesive. This same technique should be used for the rest of the mirrors to be installed. After the installation had been completed, take a single edged razor and remove the spacer tape (if used) from the face side of the mirrors. Chipboard or match book “spacers” should not be removed until after the adhesive had “set-up” properly.

### CLEANING

Mirrors should not be cleaned until they have had time to “set” properly (about ten days). DO NOT use heavy-duty harsh commercial, “clean up” solutions as most of them contain abrasive, alkali, or acids. DO USE a mirror cleaning solution such as Windex, Solox, or any other household cleaner. BE SURE that you apply the cleaner to a soft clean cloth and let it absorb into the cloth and then wipe the mirror clean. DO NOT apply the cleaner directly to the mirror as you will be forcing the cleaner into the cracks between each mirror and eventually this “spillover” solution will attack the backing at its most vulnerable point and cause deterioration.

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