Working with Acrylic Mirror

- Acrylic mirror is approximately half the weight of glass mirror and has 10 times the impact strength so for certain applications acrylic is much safer option.

- Acrylic is a semi-rigid material so it has a degree of flexibility. Acrylic also has a relatively soft surface compared to glass so some imperfections or distortion may occur. For this reason acrylic mirror is not recommended where a precise image reflection is required.

- Because acrylic mirror is flexible it must be fitted to a flat and smooth surface for the best result. If you are fitting it to a surface which is not completely flat, it is best to first fit the mirror to something rigid such as a piece of MDF.

- Because some adhesives will attack acrylic we recommend using the specialist Acrylic Mirror Adhesive available online at The Plastic People. We have not tested and do not recommend any other adhesive.

- Acrylic mirror is not recommended for glazing but can be used for outdoor applications. Do not place the mirror in areas of direct sunlight as this can intensify the sun's rays and cause focussed heat spots. Care must be taken when positioning mirror particularly when used near combustible materials. Please note that acrylic mirror will weather outdoors over time with changes in temperature and moisture. The mirror will still be attractive and reflective but will have a more weathered appearance.

- To ensure you are happy with the acrylic mirror we recommend that a sample piece is checked before installation. Please be aware that the larger the panel the more flexible the material will seem.

- Acrylic absorbs moisture and high humidity levels can cause temporary warping to the material. The material will also expand and contract with changes in temperature. The warpage is characteristic of the material and should be considered in the use of the product.

- If you wish to use screw fixings rather than an adhesive, holes should be oversized to allow for expansion. In general, we use a 3.5mm screw in a 5mm drilled hole. To help hold the mirror as flat as possible we recommend a screw every 300mm around the edge of the material. Do not over tighten the screws as this can cause the material to crack and may also result in distortion of the reflected image.

- Mirrors may be drilled with a commercial power drill without hammer action. We recommend using a drill bit designed for acrylic or steel. When drilling holes it is always advisable to have a piece of scrap wood underneath the acrylic so you have something to drill through into. This will help prevent chipping to the back of the hole.

- We recommend cleaning acrylic mirror with a soft cotton cloth and warm water containing a very small amount of mild liquid detergent. Surface gloss can be maintained by occasionally using a soft cotton cloth and VuPlex Plastic Cleaner and Polish which can be found online at The Plastic People.