

How to measure a Double Glazed Glass Unit



Double Glazed Unit

Firstly you must locate where the beading of the frame starts and this is usually where the flat part of the frame/opener finishes and starts to shape in towards the glass you will see a small hairline. With PVCu frames the beading isn't always on the internal side of the frame, it may be an externally beaded frame if the window is maybe 19 years old or more so check both sides.

Above you can see the red arrows A,B & C pointing to the area where the PVCu beading slots into the PVCu frame. To measure the opening of the PVCu frame you would measure from A to B for the width and in this instance lets say that A to B is 455mm wide. You then need to measure the height of the opening. This measurement is taken from C to D (D is not shown in the photo but it is the opposite of C) Let's say that the measurement of C to D is 994mm in height.

We now have a measurement of 455 x 994 but this is not the accurate glass size because we need to deduct an amount so that the glass can be positioned correctly and also compensate for any inaccurate measuring by the glass cutters and any imperfections made during the double glazed sealing process. A common amount to deduct in PVCu frames is 10mm and this measurement needs to be deducted from the width and also the height therefore the accurate glass size for this frame would be 445mm x 984mm.

As an industry standard, the width is always stated first when supplying glass sizes....width x height. As these types of frames are double glazed frames you would also need to know how thick the double glazed glass is and this is a little bit tricky. We have a section below to help you calculate the thickness of your double glazed sealed units.

How to measure the thickness of a Double Glazed Unit



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Most double glazed sealed units in PVCu frames are either 20mm, 24mm or 28mm thick and wooden frames can be any thickness from 14mm up to 28mm thick. You should be able to check with your supplier for these dimensions. If you purchased the windows/doors a long time ago the information should be on your receipt or warranty.

If you do not have this information to hand then you will have to calculate the measurement yourself. This is tricky but it can be done and you will need a tape measure and a straight edge such as a piece of wood. Firstly measure how thick the PVCu frame/opener is and then place a straight edge against one side of the frame and let it protrude into the area of the glass (as the picture above) . As the straight edge will be flat against the PVCu, it should be floating away from the glass. Measure the gap (A to B) from the glass to the inside of the straight edge and write this down. Do the same with the other side of the frame and note the measurement again. To calculate the thickness of your double glazed sealed unit you would need to deduct these 2 measurements from the thickness of the PVCu frame and you should have a measurement of either 24mm or 28mm.

As an example, the frame that holds the glass is 62mm thick, the A to B gap (as the photo above) of one side is 17mm and the A to B gap of the other side is also 17mm. This gives us a measurement to deduct of 34mm. 34mm deducted from the frame thickness of 62mm is 28mm and this figure is the thickness of the sealed unit in this frame.