

# Maintenance Advice

## How to look after your Britelite products

BRITELITE recommend twice yearly, (Spring and Autumn) maintenance of windows and doors. Regular maintenance of mechanical components will reduce wear and tear and prolong serviceable life, (we offer low cost maintenance service from our service department).

To prolong the serviceable life of your Britelite product care must be taken not to scratch or damage the surfaces of the window hardware during annual maintenance. Always use soft cloths for cleaning - do not use wire wool or scouring agents. Never use solvent based lubricants or abrasive cleaning agents. All residues of old lubricants should be removed prior to maintenance.

### Glass

Firstly clean internal and external surfaces with soap and water only, then use a mild glass cleaner on all internal surfaces, but only use externally when bio-clean glass is not installed. Bio-clean glass should only be washed down with water after prolonged dry periods, otherwise the external glass will need no cleaning other than to wash off heavy deposits such as bird droppings.

All double glazed units are susceptible to a degree of surface damage during the manufacturing process. We use only the very highest quality float glass available, whether laminated, toughened or annealed, which conforms to the requirements of BS6262. Double glazed units produced to BS5713 conform to the highest manufacturing standards and strict quality control and inspection routines. Minor glass scratches can be removed with jeweler's rouge or equivalent rubbing compound.

### Leaded Glass

Warm soapy water and a soft cloth, moderately applied, will prove an adequate method. Take care as excessive pressure might dislodge the lead from the glass surface. External lead will oxidize, displaying a mottled effect. This is a natural phenomenon and cannot be avoided, it will cease after about six months and become a solid standard colour.

### Conservatory Roofs

Roof panes and framing should be washed using a sponge with warm soapy water at least three times a year. Do not use an abrasive or a pressure washer on your conservatory roof.

Conservatory guttering is designed to be installed level rather than at a fall, and therefore some water will collect at the base of the guttering. This can be safely ignored and will evaporate in the warmer weather.

### uPVC Frames

Particularly when cleaning uPVC frames, remember not to use anything abrasive because this will scratch the surface and trap the dirt. Wash frames with a soap and water solution every four months to remove grime and atmospheric deposits. If necessary, clean with non-abrasive proprietary cleaner, using a soft cloth. NOTE - avoid all solvent based or abrasive cleaners.

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### Drainage

Your double glazed products are designed with an inbuilt drainage system, comprising slots within the extrusions that allow water ingress to flow to the outside. To ensure an efficient system these slots must remain unblocked. To prevent blockages, periodically remove dirt, clear drain holes and check drainage operation.

### Weatherseals

Weatherseals may become dislodged from their grooves. Should this occur, slide them back into position immediately, to avoid damage when the product is closed. If the weatherseals are broken or damaged, ensure replacement by contacting the Britelite service department, there may be a small charge for this service.

### Friction Stays

All friction stays with sliding shoes, which travel along a track, must be kept clear of dirt, debris and obstructions at all times. Use a soft, damp cloth to clean the friction stay, then dry thoroughly afterwards. For optimum performance lubricate all pivot points with a low viscosity engineering oil twice a year.

### Window & Door Handles

Window and door handles can be cleaned with a soft, dry cloth. If further cleaning is required on White/Gold/Chrome finish handles wash with soap and water solution every four months to remove grime and atmospheric deposits. NOTE - avoid all solvent based or abrasive cleaners use a mild solution of warm, soapy water on a soft cloth and dry thoroughly afterwards.

### Brass Work

When installed, brass is protected with lacquer. In time and through normal wear and tear, this lacquer may peel or become tarnished. Taking care to protect the uPVC surfaces from chemicals, remove old lacquer with nail polish remover or paint stripper. Clean and polish with a suitable proprietary brass polish. Carefully re-lacquer with a good quality product.

### Shootbolt Locking Mechanisms

Shootbolt locking mechanisms and strikers should be wiped down with a soft cloth, and a smear of petroleum jelly should be applied to mushroom cams and strikers. Silicone spray should be applied to the shootbolt extensions and the faceplate of the drive gear. Remedial maintenance resulting from mechanical or operational difficulties should only be undertaken by an approved maintenance engineer. Unauthorised remedial maintenance may invalidate guarantees.

A check on the tightness and security of all fixing screws by an approved engineer is recommended every 5 years.

Many products that you will require in order to maintain your new Britelite Windows can be purchased through Britelite by contacting the Service Manager on 01622 663399 or visit [www.britelitewindows.co.uk](http://www.britelitewindows.co.uk)

# Britelite

Windows, Conservatories & Flat Roofs

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