



Frequently Asked Questions ...

Why Should I Believe What You Say? It's a fair question. When SILTECH® asserts acrylic windowsills yield a greater degree of value than those routinely used, it's not just wishful thinking on our part ... rather, it's based on myriad tests done by independent laboratories and the results achieved!

Testing from the likes of Underwriter's Laboratories (UL), American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The acrylic materials also satisfy NSF (National Sanitation Foundation) Class 51 Food Zone and Splash Zone requirements, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Compliance for food contact requirements, and Greenguard Testing Facilities requirements.

Ohhh...and there's one more test worth mentioning... it's called "The Mountain of Satisfied Customers" test. *(Okay...that last one's not a real test, but it's definitely worth mentioning!)*

What are SILTECH® solid surface windowsills made of? Typically, the solid surface materials we use are composed of an acrylic resin-based material *(such as polymethyl methacrylate)* with natural minerals *(such as aluminium trihydrate)*, as well as fire retardant fillers, proprietary coloring agents and other ingredients.

Are you the manufacturer of these solid surface materials? We are not the "manufacturer" of the sheet goods we use. We do, however, "fabricate" windowsills *(and various other solid surface products)* using 100% acrylic sheet goods manufactured by Wilsonart International, DuPont®, LG Hausys and other solid surface manufacturers.

What are the advantages of acrylic windowsills? They are non-porous, so they are easy to clean, they won't rot, and they inhibit the growth of mold, mildew and bacteria. They won't warp, fade or yellow in sunlight. They are stain and scratch resistant. Acrylic windowsills cut and sand like hardwood. They are renewable, so no matter the scratch, nick or stain, the windowsill surface generally can be restored with minimal effort using our Care and Cleaning guidelines. They are versatile, in that profiled edges and neutral colors complement a variety of materials - inspiring you to express your personal style at home.



How much time does it take to install an acrylic windowsill? **With the right tools and a clean window ledge, it will take an average of 5 – 10 minutes to install an acrylic windowsill.**

What tools will I need to install an acrylic windowsill? **Tape Measure, Level, Utility Knife, Carpenter’s Pencil, Circular Saw with Carbide Tip Trim Blade, Jig Saw with Carbide Tip Trim Blade (for any notching), Cleaning Rag, Plastic or Wood Window Shims, Adhesive & Gun, Caulk & Gun, Protective Mask, Protective Gloves, Protective Goggles, Ear Protection.**

How easy is it really to install an acrylic windowsill? **If you can read a tape measure, work an electric saw, read a level, and squeeze adhesive and caulk from a caulk gun...it’s easy – REALLY!**

Why would I choose a more expensive acrylic windowsill over a traditional wood windowsill? **Because IT’S NOT MORE EXPENSIVE as most people believe, especially when you consider your TOTAL COST to install a finished windowsill.**

With an **acrylic windowsill**: you measure, cut the “already finished” windowsill to size, level it, apply adhesive and install.

With a **wood windowsill**: you would perform ALL THE SAME ACTIONS as with an acrylic windowsill...PLUS you’d ALSO NEED TO “finish” the wood (*i.e. painting/staining/sealing*)

Now **ADD ALL THE COSTS** (*materials, time and labor*) that go into creating and installing a “finished” wood windowsill and compare it to the cost of installing a “finished” acrylic windowsill. And as far as the original question goes concerning which one costs more ... well, we hope the answer makes \$en\$e to you.

And don’t forget, acrylic windowsills won’t rot, mold or mildew...they won’t fade or yellow from the sun...or need to be repainted or re-stained or resealed....and the surface is renewable too!



Why would a Class A or Class I flame resistant acrylic windowsill matter to me? Because it could give you more of the *precious time* you may need to egress safely, if there is a fire.

The 1/2” acrylic solid surface material used by SILTECH® is Class I and Class A rated based on ASTM E 84 test procedures. Class I and Class A rated materials have the **LEAST POTENTIAL** to spread flames, smoke and toxic fumes during a fire event. While Class III or Class C materials have the **MOST POTENTIAL** to spread flames, smoke and toxic fumes. (*Note: most untreated wood windowsills have a Class C or Class III rating, while a few species of wood have a flame-spread rating that qualifies as Class B or Class II.*)

Do acrylic windowsills help increase the value of my home? They certainly can. It is one of the easiest, fastest and least expensive ways to give rooms throughout your house a facelift. A new acrylic windowsill can help highlight the entire window opening and softly illuminate the interior as well, adding to the perceived value of the home.

How would a Builder, a Contractor or a Do-It-Yourselfer (DIY) benefit from using acrylic windowsills? Very simply, the windowsills are an **easy and quick installation...** and when using appropriate wood-working tools, they don't require much time or effort to achieve a “finished” look at project's end...and **any minor damage** (*like cigarette burns, scratches or beverage stains*) caused prior to or during installation, generally **can be repaired and renewed in place** with minimal effort using our Care and Cleaning guidelines.

How can acrylic windowsills make an Interior Decorator's design come together? These windowsills combine beautifully with wood, aluminium, stainless steel, glass and other materials, as well as a variety of textures and colors. The material can also be used for knee-wall caps, shower curb caps and transition thresholds for a uniform look throughout the space. And with their various edge profiles and neutral colors, SILTECH® acrylic products help inspire decorators to express *their* personal styles in unlimited ways.



Are SILTECH® acrylic windowsills non-toxic? Pursuant to the Safety Data Sheets' (SDS) toxicological information section for the various sheet goods we use, the product has no known adverse effect on human health. And the product, as such, is not hazardous. However, dust caused by sanding or cutting the material may cause irritation to the skin, eyes and respiratory system...so always use individual protection measures.

Is a SILTECH® windowsill heat resistant? Yes, the solid surface material we use is heat resistant, so a hot cup of tea, coffee or cocoa won't be a problem. But common sense needs to be applied concerning exposure to direct heat.

Is a SILTECH® windowsill UV resistant? Yes, it's true. The solid surface material we use to fabricate windowsills is not affected by UV rays, so it won't fade, warp or yellow in sunlight. You get design versatility, renewability and a repairable surface that not only looks good, but performs like no other.

Is a SILTECH® windowsill stain and bacteria resistant? The materials we use have undergone rigorous and extensive ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) and ANSI (American National Standards Institute) testing for moisture absorption, bacterial, fungi and stain resistance. And because of the material's molecular make-up, it has very low moisture absorption, so it does not support fungal or bacterial growth and it is stain resistant as well.

How is a SILTECH® windowsill renewable? It is renewable because the color is uniform throughout the thickness of the windowsill. So, general day-to-day cleaning can be done with warm soapy water or non-abrasive cleaners ... then just rinse and towel dry. To remove stubborn residue, apply a more abrasive cleaner like Bon-Ami®, Comet® or Ajax® and with a damp sponge, buff in a circular motion...rinse and towel dry. And to remove minor cuts and scratches, apply an abrasive cleaner like Bon-Ami®, Comet® or Ajax® and with a damp (#7448) Scotch-Brite™ pad, buff in a circular motion...rinse and towel dry.



What if my glass of grape juice or wine or my tea or coffee cup leaves a ring on my new SILTECH® windowsill? Typically, wiping the area with a wet paper towel removes the ring discoloration completely...even after several days...*heck even after several weeks!*

However, if there is a particularly stubborn substance that still leaves a shadow of discoloration behind after wiping with a wet paper towel, you can use an abrasive cleaner such as Comet® or Ajax®. Wipe the cleanser into the discoloration in a circular motion with a wet paper towel. Wipe the residue away with a new damp paper towel, then wipe dry.

For particularly stubborn stains (like permanent marker), using a wet (#7448) Scotch Brite® pad and buffing in a circular motion removes it completely.

What about cigarette burns or stains? Neither leave lasting effects. If such an accident should occur, apply an abrasive cleanser like Comet® or Ajax® and buff with a wet (#7448) Scotch Brite® pad in a circular motion. Then wipe clean.

How is a SILTECH® windowsill sustainable? Because of the intrinsic properties of solid surface materials (i.e. non-porous, fade resistant, scratch and stain resistant) along with proper care and maintenance, it can literally last several lifetimes. And because of its molecular properties, it can be recycled and used again...and again...and again...

Is a SILTECH® windowsill environmentally friendly? Yes, it is. Adhesive-free windowsills can be returned to select facilities and organizations who, in turn, break the material down into its base components, then re-process it into usable materials again.

SILTECH® windowsills are comprised of materials which possess low volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and are considered to be non-toxic.

Additionally, the material is UL GREENGUARD Gold Certified for low chemical emissions (*which helps promote a healthier indoor air environment*).



Do you offer other colors beyond the Antique White and Designer White seen on the HomeDepot.com website? Currently, the two colors, the two edge profiles and the various sizes you see on HomeDepot.com are our *BEST DEAL AVAILABLE* for these pre-cut sized windowsills. We hope to add more colors and edge profiles to HomeDepot.com in the near future. And although additional colors, edge profiles, along with custom lengths and widths may be viewed at the SILTECH® Manufacturing, Inc. website, they are not available through HomeDepot.com at this time.

What other products does SILTECH® have in addition to windowsills? SILTECH® uses 100% acrylic solid surface material to also fabricate: transition thresholds, profiled wall caps, profiled shower curb caps, profiled window seats and Fillet-A-Way™ fish cutting boards (*as seen on the SILTECH® Manufacturing, Inc. website*) ... but currently only the forty profiled edge windowsills are offered on HomeDepot.com.