



What is Iridescence?

Iridescence (also anisotropy, strain pattern) is a phenomenon in heat treated glass caused by slight variations of heating and cooling during the heat treating process. This causes varying levels of stress that can cause light to be reflected or transmitted at slightly different wavelengths. Please note that the presence of iridescence does not affect the structural integrity or performance of the glass in any way.

Typically, iridescence isn't immediately visible in heat treated glass. However, certain conditions may cause the pattern to be visible. For instance, iridescence can frequently be seen in the back windows of cars, especially through polarized sunglasses.

Conditions that magnify iridescence include:

- Viewing glass through polarized lenses
- Installing glass near significantly sized bodies of water
- Viewing glass two to three hours prior to sunset
- Viewing glass at an extreme angle

Additionally, thicker glass types, tinted glass, coated glass, or products made of multiple glass panels (laminated or insulating units) may also accentuate iridescence.

Due to the nature of the heat treatment process, iridescence is present in all heat strengthened and tempered glass to some extent. Therefore, the presence of iridescence is not grounds for a warranty or remake.

If you have any questions regarding iridescence, please call your sales representative.