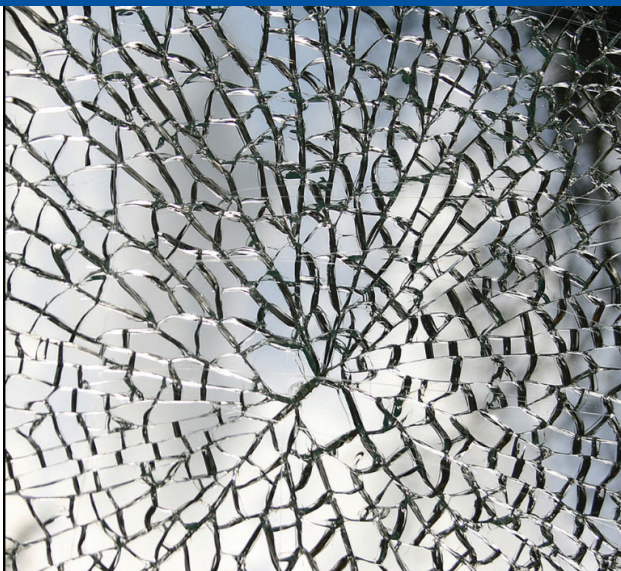




SECURITY FILM IN A NUTSHELL

A plain-English guide to what security window film does, how delay works, and how to compare practical options for storefronts.

WHEN STOREFRONT GLASS BREAKS, THE REAL COST IS OFTEN WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Beyond the direct costs of theft, break-ins, smash-and-grab attempts, and repeated glass damage can create more than a repair issue. They can lead to emergency board-ups, downtime, safety concerns, customer disruption, and repeat-location vulnerability.

WHAT IT CAN HELP REDUCE

- ▶ Forced entry
- ▶ Glass hazards
- ▶ Board-ups
- ▶ Downtime
- ▶ Repeat risk

A passive upgrade

Clear protection added to existing glass to improve resistance after impact

THE MAIN IDEA

Security film is a delay product – not a denial product. It helps keep broken glass together after impact. When paired with structural sealant, it can help keep filmed glass connected to the frame longer.

SIMPLE TAKEAWAY

Make forced entry harder, slower, and more disruptive to intruders.

THREE LEVELS OF DELAY

These categories are a simple way to compare options. They are not guarantees of exact delay time.

1 ESSENTIAL DELAY

PRACTICAL UPGRADE

Entry-level security film systems, often around 8 mil. Best for basic glass retention or budget-sensitive rollouts.

LOWER RESISTANCE

2 ENHANCED DELAY

STRONGER STOREFRONT

Thicker standard security film systems, often around 14-15 mil. A strong middle-ground option for retailers.

MIDDLE RESISTANCE

3 ADVANCED DELAY

HIGHER RESISTANCE

Heavy-duty or specialty systems, including 24 mil+ and advanced material options for higher-risk locations.

HIGHER RESISTANCE

» LOWER RESISTANCE TO HIGHER RESISTANCE

Material matters

Thicker systems generally provide more resistance, but thickness is not the only factor. Film construction, tear resistance, glass type, frame condition, and installation quality all affect performance.

Why structural sealant matters

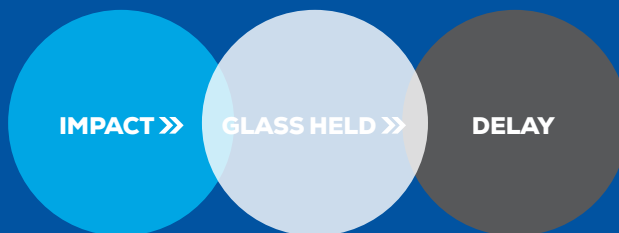
Film helps hold broken glass together. Structural sealant helps anchor filmed glass to the frame. For many storefront applications, both parts matter.

SIMPLE TAKEAWAY

Film is the holding layer. Structural sealant is the connection to the frame. NGS commonly recommends four-sided 3M IPA wet glaze attachment when conditions allow.

A GOOD RECOMMENDATION STARTS WITH UNDERSTANDING THE RISK

The right professional should narrow the options, not just hand you a product list.



Selected for resistance, not appearance

KEY QUESTIONS BEFORE CHOOSING A SYSTEM

1

DEFINE THE RISK

Recent break-in, repeat incidents, safety concern, or portfolio-wide standard?

2

UNDERSTAND THE GLASS

Glass type, prior film, tint, coatings, or insulated units may change options.

3

EVALUATE CURRENT CONDITIONS

Frame design, gaskets, and bonding surfaces affect structural sealant options.

4

PROFESSIONALIZE YOUR ROLLOUT STRATEGY

Standardize a higher level of protection across your inventory where risk supports it.

OUTCOME

A system selection that fits the location risk, glass, existing conditions, desired delay level, rollout strategy, and budget.

DUAL-FUNCTION NOTE

Some security film options can also include sun-control benefits such as glare, heat, or privacy improvement.

ACUTE SITUATIONS

Extreme situations may call for denial or ballistic-level upgrades, such as Riot Glass or customized ballistic glazing, when a more robust system is required.

COMMON QUESTIONS

How much delay will this give us?

There is no single guaranteed number. Delay depends on the glass, frame, structural sealant, installation, tools used, and type of attack.

Is security film bulletproof?

No. Security film is not bulletproof glass. It helps hold broken glass together and add delay, not create a guaranteed barrier.

Will it change the look of the storefront?

Most security films are optically clear and designed to preserve the appearance of the glass. Some options can include sun-control benefits.

Do we need it everywhere?

Not always. Some retailers use one standard across all stores. Others apply higher levels only at repeat-incident or higher-impact locations.

Interior or exterior installation?

Most security films are installed on the interior side of the glass. Exterior-rated options may be available when access or glass design requires it.

Can graphics be installed over it?

Yes, but the graphic spec matters. The wrong adhesive can damage security film during removal, so materials should be reviewed first.

**GET YOUR FREE
PROFESSIONAL
CONSULTATION**

Share the glass type, existing conditions, urgency, risk concern, and locations under review. From there, the right security film category and approach become much easier to determine.

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