



# CPSC Safety Alert

## Tempered Glass Safety Alert

Tempered glass is a technology that is designed to fail safely. Consumer products that use tempered glass should rupture into small, fragmented pieces, and not into larger shards if shattered. There are safety standards in place for some consumer products that use tempered glass.

### Glass Doors

There is a mandatory federal safety standard for glass in shower and bathtub enclosures, doors, storm doors and glass sliding doors.

CPSC updated the mandatory standard in 2016. The standard establishes the test methods and safety properties of safety glazing materials designed to reduce the likelihood of cutting and piercing injuries when the materials are broken by human contact.

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Newsroom/News-Releases/2016/CPSC-Amends-Mandatory-Safety-Standard-for-Architectural-Glazing-Materials>



From 2012 through 2016, there were an estimated 2,300 U.S. emergency department visits associated with shattering glass shower doors.

### Horizontal Tabletops

A voluntary ASTM standard requires that tempered glass be used when glass is the horizontal surface of desks and tables. It is intended to minimize the likelihood of serious cutting and piercing injuries and fatalities that may occur due to the breakage of glass used as a horizontal surface in desks, and dining, coffee, end, display, mobile, outdoor and other types of tables.



In 2016, an estimated 20,700 injuries associated with glass tables were seen in emergency departments.

### Report Incidents

CPSC takes all incidents involving shattering glass seriously. The spontaneous breakage can be caused by scratches, installation error or other factors because the surface of tempered glass is under pressure. Consumers should report safety-related incidents involving glass to CPSC at [www.SaferProducts.gov](http://www.SaferProducts.gov).

Publication 1801 (2-2018)