

# HEAVY GLASS DOOR

## DESIGN GUIDE



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# Introduction

The all-glass entrance has become increasingly popular with architects and interior designers. These entrance systems are technically not all glass but would be better described as heavy glass door and entrance systems. For the purpose of this Design Guide, heavy glass (HG) is defined as fully tempered glass equal to or greater than  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. (10 mm), or tempered laminated glass constructed with two or more lites of glass equal to or greater than  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. (12 mm). Entrance systems incorporate HG, metal rails, small metal patch fittings and sometimes structural silicone. Heavy glass with polished edges provides sleek-looking entrance doors that make an elegant statement for the building or shop owner.

This Heavy Glass Door Design Guide is provided to assist designers in making their decisions by supplying answers to the most commonly asked design questions. A HG entrance can be used as an exterior entrance for a monumental building or a simple interior mall storefront. The attractiveness of a storefront or entrance tends to be the focal point for pedestrians and thus sets the stage for the building or shop.

The purpose of this Design Guide is to provide authoritative technical information to designers and to offer some suggestions as to the proper applications of HG used in doors and entrances. The aim of this design guide is to promote good design practice and adherence to appropriate structural standards in fully tempered heavy glass storefront and entrance design. Good design and adherence to standards will serve as a benefit to all parties involved: the architect, the glass fabricator, the installing contractor and, most importantly, the building owner, who is the end user.

This guide hopes to offer assistance during the decision-making stages of a project. The contents of this guide are for the design professional's use in review and final approval.

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## Heavy Glass Door Design Guide

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### **About NGA**

The National Glass Association (NGA) was founded in 1948. NGA combined with the Glass Association of North America (GANA) on February 1, 2018 to form the largest trade association serving the architectural glass and metals industry supply chain, including glazing contractors, full-service glass companies, glass fabricators, primary glass manufacturers and suppliers to the industry.

It is a technical powerhouse that brings some of the best minds to the table to create technical resources and promote and advocate for glass in buildings through its membership, its Forming, Fabricating and Installing committees and the Glazing Industry Code Committee (GICC).

NGA's education and training programs—both online at MyGlassClass.com and in-person at association-sponsored events—and its official publication Glass Magazine, keep the industry knowledgeable and well-informed.

NGA produces the industry's largest annual trade show in the Americas, GlassBuild America. It hosts the Building Envelope Contractors (BEC) Conference, the Glazing Executives Forum, Glass Processing and Automation Days, as well as Annual and Technical Conferences. These educational and networking events bring together thousands of industry professionals to help them build more profitable businesses.

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