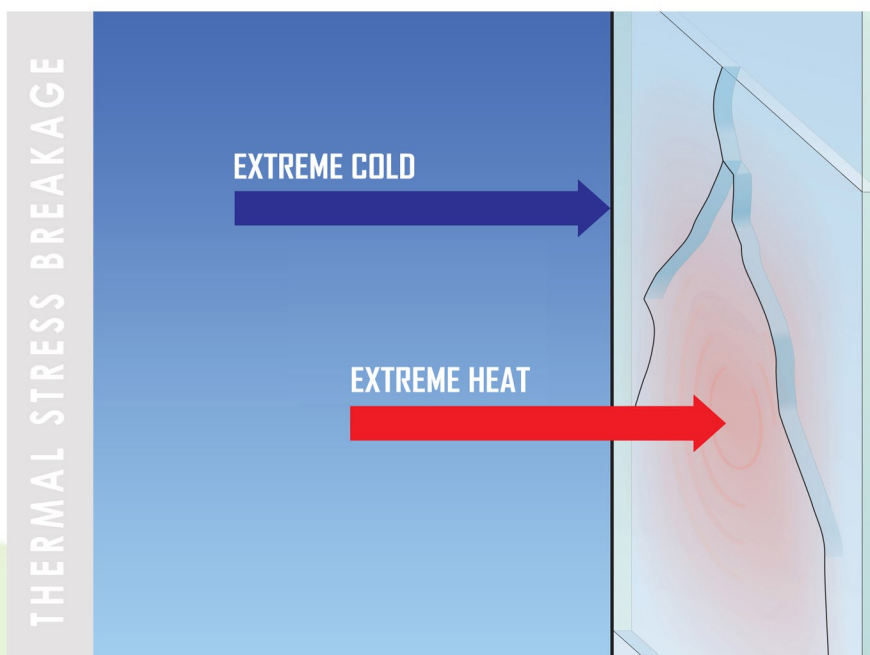


## Assumptions

Energy control window films are installed in Australia by the millions of square meters annually, and breakages are rare. Window film manufacturers are well aware of the physics of thermal stress and know how films will act on different glass types. Consultation with the film manufacturer is always advised when there is potential of thermal stress.

When installing film, installers have no way of knowing the condition of the glass behind the frame, so some assumptions must be made that significant edge chips are not present and the glass has been installed to a professional glazing standard.

Installers can reference these points in their quote or agreement template, to make them clear to all parties from the outset of the job.



## Risk assessment

Understanding solar control glass, window film options and thermal stress indicators is critical when recommending films.

Professional window film installers utilise computer programs to select an appropriate film to mitigate the risk of thermal stress breakage. WFAANZ distributor members can assist with these thermal stress calculations if you require an estimate of the risk.

## Next steps

In the event of suspected thermal stress breakage, the window film installer is often contacted by the client. WFAANZ advises its members to be present when the glass is removed from the frame. That way, you can inspect the edges and look for chips and identify issues with the glass installation by the glazier, like frame protrusions pushing against the window.

WFAANZ members can also contact the association for further advice.

### Examples of potential thermal stress breakage conditions:

- > Clear or tinted float glass thicker than 6mm
- > Single pane of clear or tinted float glass larger than 4m<sup>2</sup>
- > Low E, double glazed or laminated glass
- > Partial application of film to a single pane of glass
- > Existing damage to the frame
- > Existing chips or cracks
- > Wired, textured or patterned glass
- > Building with a history of broken glass
- > External heating and/or cooling factors – shading, orientation, vents, etc.

### WFAANZ

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