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SUGGESTIONS FOR TRIMMING ACRYLIC WINDSHIELDS AND WINDOWS

1. Acrylic Windshields are tough - BUT THEY ARE NOT UNBREAKABLE - use care in handling and working
2. A Band saw is the most common way to trim the edges of aircraft Windshields. Use a blade with at least 24 teeth per inch and a high speed - about the same speed as is used for wood.

DO NOT use reciprocating saws, such as saber saws!!!

3. A high speed router may be used for trimming, however, a fixture guide or a very steady hand is required to use this method.
4. To remove smaller amounts from the edge, generally 1/8 inch or less, a hand held disk sander may be used. A medium grit paper, and very light pressure on the disk sander produces good results. A belt sander may be used.
5. Hand tools, such as files, hand saws, sandpaper may be used. Be careful, any binding of saws or files may cause breakage.
6. Before installing the Windshield, carefully smooth the edges to remove notches. Acrylics are notch sensitive
7. Any drilling must be done with drills that are especially sharpened for the purpose. See drawing
8. Installation should be done in accordance with aircraft manufactures recommended procedure and/or normally accepted aircraft maintenance practice

NOTE: We do not recommend the use of covers on Windshields as they may cause crazing

For more detailed information you may also visit on-line:

<http://av-info.faa.gov/dst/43-13/>
The FAA has more information for the fabrication of acrylic

