

DIY Secondary Glazing Step-by-Step

What you need:

- measuring tape
- notepad and pencil
- ladders
- polycarbonate sheeting (cut to size)
- magnetic fixing kit
- scissors

First, you will need to source a supplier of polycarbonate secondary glazing. We bought polycarbonate sheeting and magnetic fixing kit from Omega (www.omegabuild.com).

Measure the external dimensions of the frame where you want the glazing to sit then deduct 20mm from each side (ensure that this leaves at least 13mm around each side of the frame to accommodate the magnetic fixing strips). Order the polycarbonate and fixing kit required. Most companies will cut the polycarbonate sheeting to size for you (normally with a tolerance of +/- 3mm).



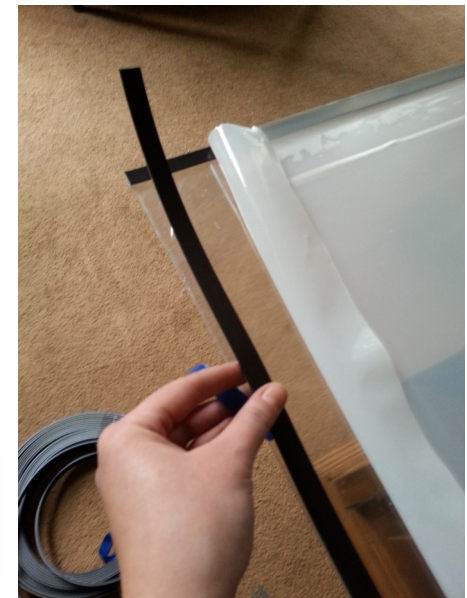
Clean around the frame with IPA cleaner wipes (supplied) or a damp cloth (fig. 1).

Hold the polycarbonate sheeting in position over the window and mark around the sheeting with a pencil (you might need someone to help) (fig. 2).

Peel the backing off of the steel tape and stick around the window frame, just within your pencil mark (fig. 3).

Peel back plastic covering on the sheeting and stick the magnetic tape around the edges. (fig. 4). Cut to size with scissors.

When you are ready to fit the polycarbonate sheeting, peel the plastic covering off completely. Line up the steel tape around the frame with the magnetic tape around the sheeting and allow it to snap into place (fig.5).



Things to consider when installing DIY Secondary Glazing...

Do you live in a listed building?

It is recommended that you contact the Planning Department at your local authority to check their policy on this type of Secondary Glazing, if you live in a listed building.

Do you have working wooden shutters?

Ideally you want to fit secondary glazing panels over the whole window. This minimises heat loss and also acts as draught proofing. If you have wooden shutters you may find that the additional width of the Secondary Glazing added to the frame would not allow you to close the shutters fully. Wooden shutters are a great way to reduce heat loss from a room and can be really effective, so we would not recommend that you alter anything that means they won't close.

Instead you can fit Secondary Glazing over each individual window. In doing this you are not covering the gap between the window and the frame. This method will require additional draught proofing around the window frame. You can do this by nailing draught proofing strips around the window. If your property is a listed building then internal draught proofing of the window is generally preferred.

Are your windows sash and case with window furniture?

Depending where on the window the Secondary Glazing is fitted, it may interfere with the existing window furniture. This is something you will need to consider. It may be necessary to move the window furniture slightly or replace it with an alternative.

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