

GREENHOUSE GLAZING OPTIONS



4MM TOUGHENED SAFETY GLASS

Advantages

- Longevity- we guarantee it for 25 years!
- Traditional look
- Light clarity - you can see straight through vs the semi-transparency of polycarbonate
- Easy to clean. Water blast it back to new!
- Very strong and durable
- Nicer look for an entertaining space/yard feature

Disadvantages

- Less thermal efficient (4mm glass R=1.0)
- Potential to burn plants due to the level of clarity

In summary:

4mm is significantly stronger than standard 3mm Safety Glass. Winter Gardenz only uses 4mm toughened safety glass, not 'float glass' like a lot of the imported greenhouses you'll find.

Glass is more aesthetically pleasing and can always be water-blasted back to new. While it isn't as thermally insulating, there are ways you can make up for that like bringing in a heater in the winter or putting a shade cover over the summer to protect from the summer heat.

6MM TWIN WALL POLYCARBONATE

Advantages

- Better thermal efficiency (6mm Twin-wall R=1.54). Keeps the warmth in longer into the night and offers better frost protection
- Very tough and durable
- Good longevity (provided it is a premium grade polycarbonate)
- Produces a slightly diffused light which helps prevent burning/scorching the plants

Disadvantages

- Prone to scratching
- Shorter life-span (guaranteed for 10 years but can last about 15+ years)
- Not as attractive for a yard-feature or entertaining area

In summary:

Winter Gardenz' 6mm twin-wall polycarbonate is a very practical option for many hobby gardeners with it's better ability to insulate and lower cost.

While it doesn't last as long as glass, it can still give you about 2 decades of growing enjoyment, and the panels are replaceable if they brake down.

SHADE MESH EXPANDED ALUMINIUM

Advantages

- The durable aluminium mesh screen blocks out the harsh sun
- Provides adequate air-flow and ventilation to promote optimal plant growth. Includes a 15-year warranty.

Disadvantages

- Doesn't protect from the outside air, if it's cold outside it's cold inside
- Bugs smaller than 1.5mm can fit through the mesh holes.

In summary:

Shade mesh is a great option for hardening off your plants. While it won't give them protection from temperature fluctuations, it can still help give some level of protection from the elements.

If you are wanting the best of both worlds, consider buying a multizone greenhouse which has polycarbonate on one side and shade mesh on the other side.

