

Frameless Shower Doors: What to Expect & Why Leaks Can Happen

Understanding Frameless Shower Enclosures

Frameless glass shower doors are a beautiful, modern choice that create a clean, open feel in your bathroom. Unlike framed enclosures, frameless designs use thick, tempered glass panels without bulky metal framing. This offers a sleek, high-end look — but it's important to understand how they function differently.

Our Installation Standard

At Sassman Glass & Mirror, we install each shower to industry standards using the best quality hardware and techniques. Our team takes every possible step to reduce water leakage — including offering design advice to help avoid future issues.

Important Note About Warranties

Due to the nature of frameless shower designs, we cannot warranty against water leakage. This is not a reflection of poor workmanship, but a known limitation of this type of enclosure. We will gladly discuss your space and help design the best option for minimizing leakage while achieving the look you love.

Have Questions?

We're happy to guide you through product options and layout ideas to reduce concerns. Just ask!

Why Frameless Shower Doors May Leak

Frameless showers are designed more for appearance than for perfect water containment. While we take care to minimize water escape, small leaks are possible and even common in certain situations.

Here's why:

- Minimal Seals: To preserve the clean look, frameless showers use fewer gaskets and seals than framed systems.
- Gaps for Movement: Tiny gaps are necessary around doors and panels to allow the glass to operate safely.
- Water Direction: Frameless showers rely on proper water flow and positioning of the showerhead. Water aimed directly at a door or hinge line may cause leakage.
- Unleveled Floors/Walls: Even small imperfections in walls or floors can allow water to escape where a rigid frame would normally contain it.
- To help minimize water escaping from your frameless shower, we strongly recommend that the shower curb be pitched inward by at least 1/4 inch toward the shower interior. This slight angle helps direct water back into the enclosure.
- Showers with flat or outward-sloping curbs are more likely to experience water running onto the bathroom floor, especially when combined with minimal seals and frameless design gaps.
- Proper slope is one of the most effective ways to reduce leaking and maintain a dry bathroom floor.