

## Window Film: First Surface vs. Second Surface

Window film may be applied to either side of a pane of glass, and this is typically determined by which side will receive less exposure to physical contact (for longevity of the product).

Depending on which side, or *Surface*, of the glass is chosen, the artwork may need to be printed as a mirror-image so that the image will "read" as intended once installed. It is necessary to determine this surface prior to the production of a Strike-Off, to ensure a proper installation.

There are 3 things we need to know in order to establish the correct surface:

### 1 Are you specifying Polyester or Polycarbonate?

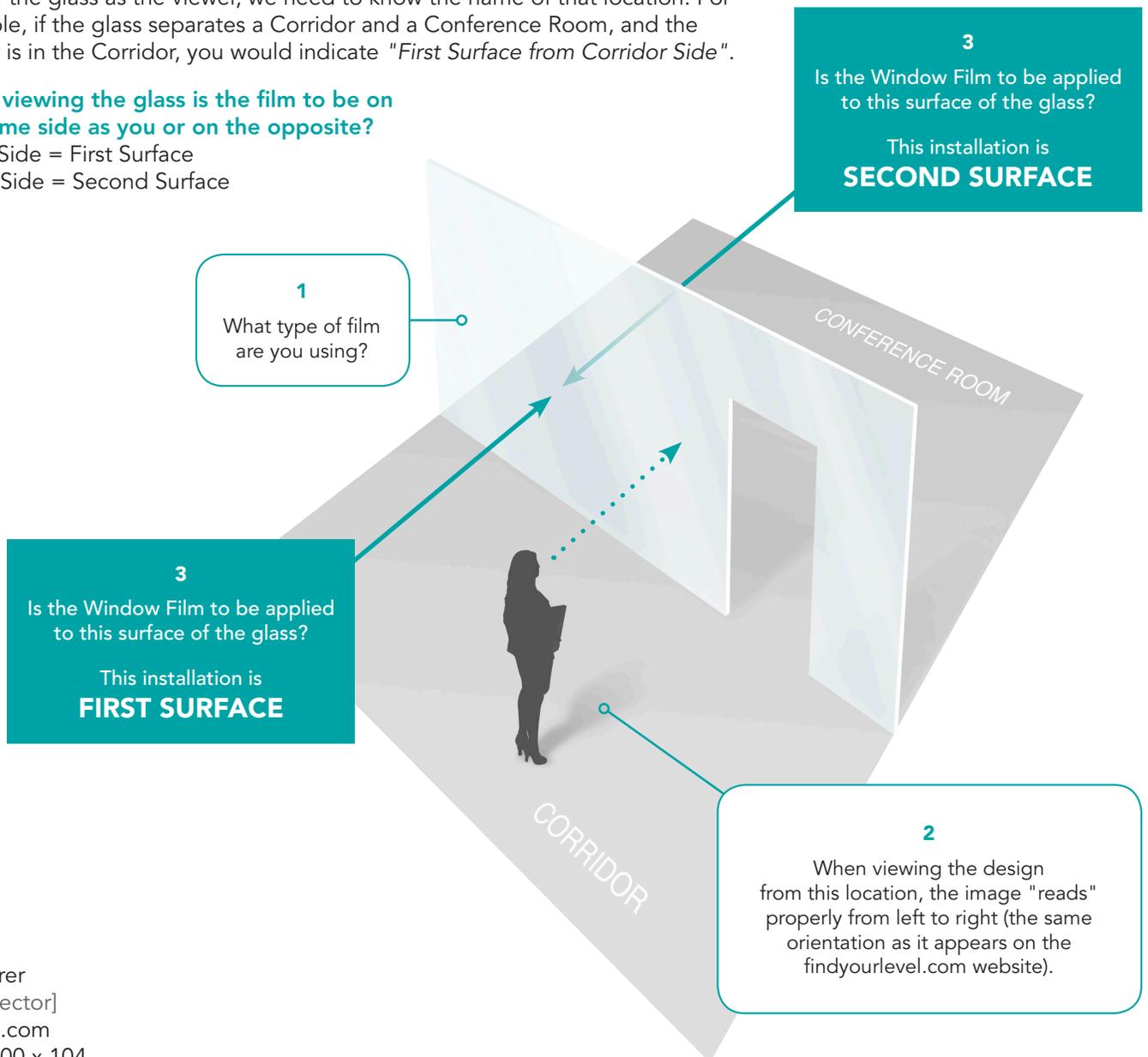
These materials are printed differently, and knowing which material is to be used will affect the way our print files are set up. Learn more in the Level Knowledge Base document [Window Film: Polyester vs. Polycarbonate](#).

### 2 Where is the viewer in relation to the glass?

It's critical to establish the location from which you're viewing the finished design in it's normal left-to-right orientation. Since First Surface is always on the same side of the glass as the viewer, we need to know the name of that location. For example, if the glass separates a Corridor and a Conference Room, and the viewer is in the Corridor, you would indicate "First Surface from Corridor Side".

### 3 When viewing the glass is the film to be on the same side as you or on the opposite?

Same Side = First Surface  
Other Side = Second Surface



### Questions?

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