



**Your windshield** is an essential part of your car's overall structural integrity and safety, which is why you should have it repaired or replaced as soon as you discover any damage. Before it's too late.

Prior to the 1970s, a car's steel skeleton provided most of the vehicle's support. But an energy crisis changed everything. Manufacturers had to make lighter, more energy-efficient cars. The vehicle's body - windshield included - became responsible for much of the structural support previously afforded by the steel frame.

The new lower-profile cars weakened the roof support system. It was left to the windshield to make up for this deficiency. By welding it to the frame with urethane, an insulating adhesive, the roof support system became an integral part of the roof structure itself.

Proper application of urethane during installation is critical. Don't settle for less - your life may depend on it!

### Your Windshield and Road Safety

Given its new function, the windshield takes on a vital importance with regard to the safety of the driver and passengers, whenever an impact occurs. The repair or replacement of a windshield must meet Federal Motor Vehicles Safety Standards, which are tested as follows:

---

#### Front Crash Test

**Purpose:** To avoid dislodging windshield; consequently keeping passengers from being thrown from the vehicle.

**Method:** 48 km/h frontal crash; windshield retention system must remain intact after collision.



---

#### Roof Crush or Roll-Over Test

**Purpose:** To reduce injury/death from crushed roof in a roll-over accident.

**Method:** An applied force of 5,000 lbs or 1- 1/2 times the car's weight, whichever is less, to either side of the forward edge of the roof.



---

#### Airbag Safety Test

**Purpose:** To reduce injury/death in the use of air bags and safety belts. Your windshield is integral to properly functioning airbags.

**Method:** Inflated air bags are kept in place by the windshield and dashboard. Improper windshield installation might allow the windshield to dislodge during impact, leaving the air bags without proper support.

