

Curved glass-Classification,Production,application

What's curved glass?

Different from normal flat glass,curved glass has special shape.After heating the pre-processed float glass (cutting and grinding to the required size) to the softening temperature, and then relying on glass weight or external force to make the glass into a non-planar shape that matches the mold in various specific molds. annealing process is followed to form glass final strength.

Based on the production methods and features,curved glass can be classified into [hot bending glass](#),and heat treated curved glass.

Curved glass Production methods:

Hot bending glass,is produced with hot bending machine,glass will be heated to softening point,form the required shape with mould and cooling down in room temperature.



As there's no fasting cooling down process,hot bending glass strength is same as float glass,meanwhile the glass can be made into any shape based on the different mould,It's widely used in interior glass tables,glass shelves,glass cabinets .



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Different from hot bending glass tempered curved glass heating and cooling process is finished with tempering furnace. The fast heating and fast cooling process will form compressive stress on glass surface. When the glass is subject to external force, the surface stress is been counteract first to improve the bearing capability and enhance the glass strength.

Same as [flat tempered glass](#), curved tempered glass also has high strength and will break into small particles once broken and avoid potential injury to people.

With the development of tempering technology, now tempered curved glass can be divided into: **cylindrical bend tempering, Asymmetrical bend tempering, hyperbolic bending glass, double curved glass, and even multi-curved tempered glass.**





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Curved glass processed with tempering furnace can be heat strengthened, toughened, and heat soaked, the only difference between flat tempered glass is just the shape.

Tempered curved glass can be divided into longitudinal bending and lateral bending.

Lateral bending, the glass max height is the tempering furnace width, finished glass are used for shower doors, house appliance etc where has high appearance requirement.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7tQd0rTFjr0>

Compared with lateral bending, as the contact area between roller squeezer and glass is much bigger, longitudinal bending furnace radius is always bigger than lateral ones, and the bending effect is not good as well.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-vzVOOcQPPE>

Curved glass application:

Curved tempered glass has below features:

- Various glass substrates option: Clear, Low iron, body tinted glass, acid etched, low-E coated glass.
- Silk screen, digitally printing process can be applied on glass surface to add extra design element.
- Curved glass can further be processed into [laminated curved glass](#) to offer extra acoustic, UV protection, and safety function.
- Curved glass can further be processed into [insulated curved glass](#) panels to offer extra thermal insulation performance.





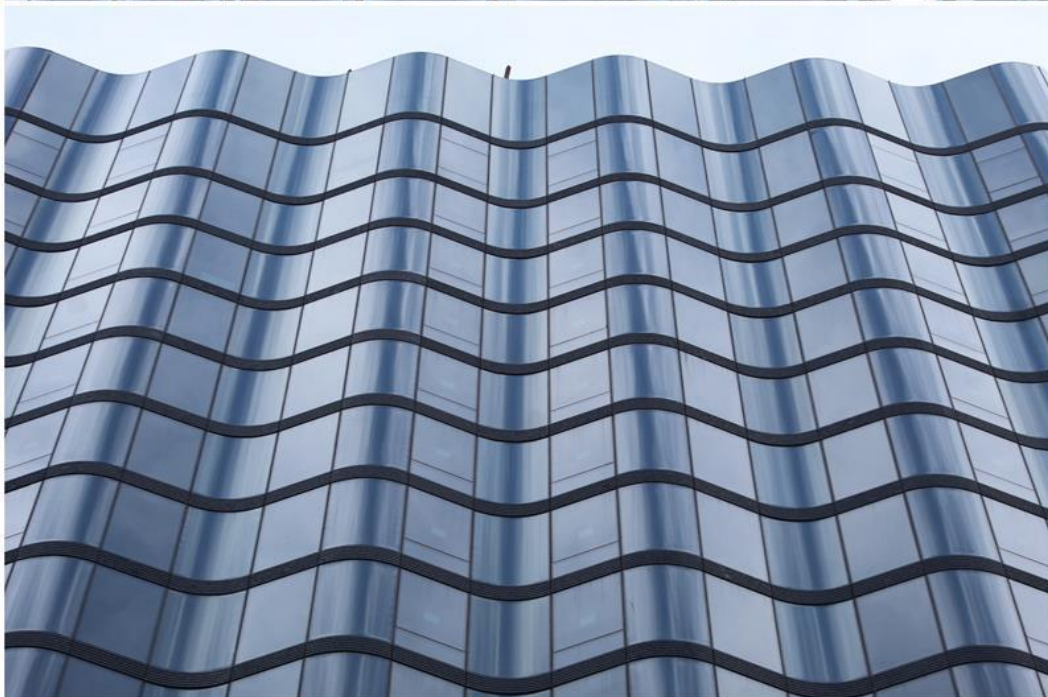
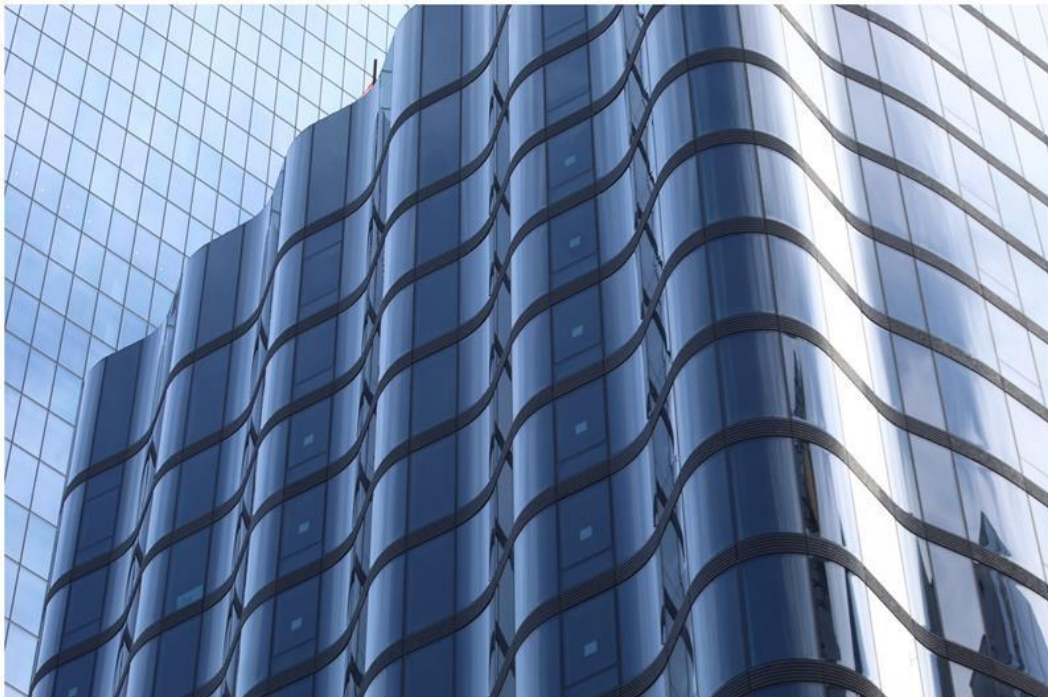
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Curved glass gives architects and designers freedom to create aesthetically pleasing curved glazed facades where straightness, corners and edges can be enhanced with soft curves. These curves can be in the form of simple cylindrical shapes to the more complex 3D free form shapes.

The newest project that shows the excellent visual effect on glass facade is Predry Manhattan west hotel, The wavy glass curtain wall is now fully installed on the northern and southern elevations of the 281-foot-tall Pendry Manhattan West Hotel. The glass facade use 4500sqm curved insulated glass, 1700pieces with minimum 1450mm radius.

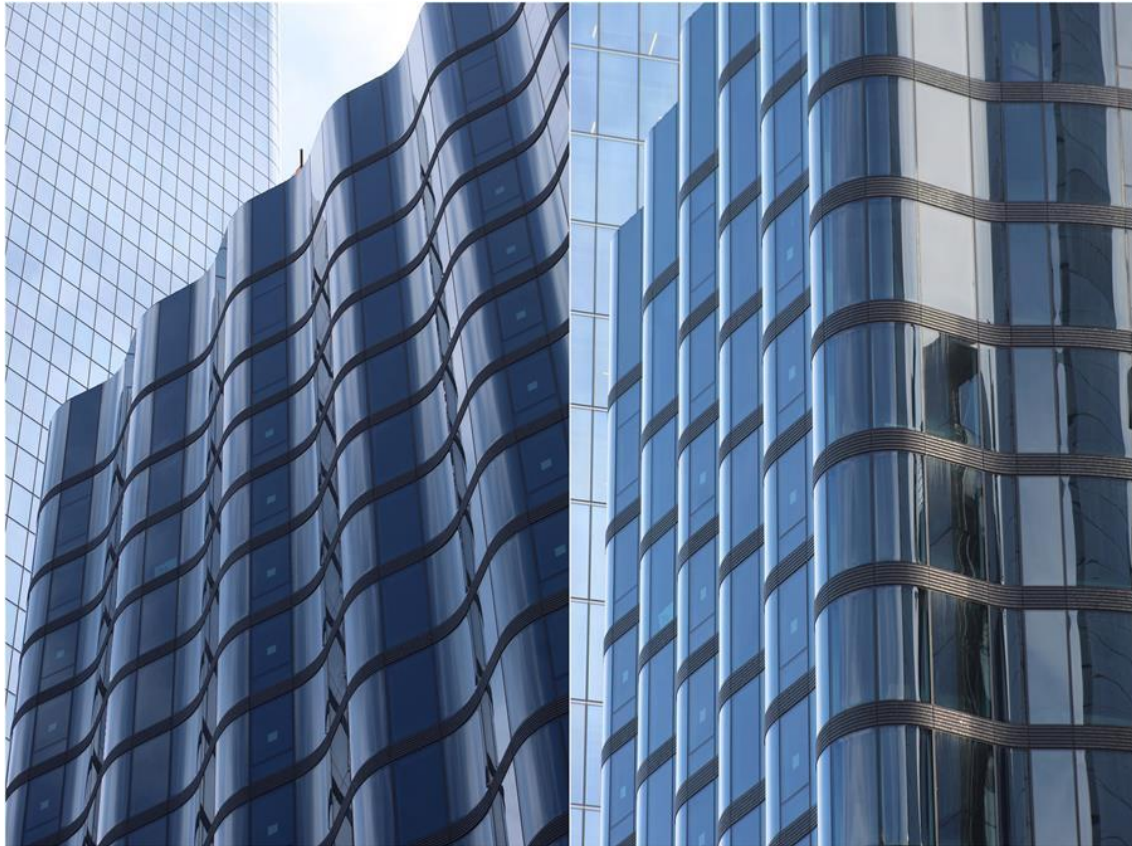
Below pictures from Michael Yound shows us how awesome the perfect combination of curved glass and glass building.





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[Click here](#) to learn full version of the project case study:Page 76-84.

Beside glass facade,curved glass can also been applied in below categories:

Curved glass showers

Curved [glass staircases& handrails](#)

Curved storefronts & revolving doors

Curved [glass office partitions](#).

Curved glass skylights &glass greenhouse



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Contact us:

Qingdao Morn Building Materials Co.,Ltd

China HQ: Room A304, Shengxifu Road, NO.209 Weihai Road, Shibei

District, Qingdao, China, 266024

Sales Email: marketing@cnmorn.com

Technical support: han@cnmorn.com **Mobile/Wechat:** 0086-17705464660

Website: <https://www.cnmorn.com/> <https://www.mornglass.com/>