

VINYL APPLICATION GUIDE A



Required Tools: masking tape, squeegee, lint free cloth, scissors, dishwashing soap, water, pin or needle and isopropyl alcohol (optional)

Application Temperature: In order for the adhesive on the vinyl to stick you must apply at an air temperature of at least 50° F (13° C). If hot conditions, it is best to apply vinyl in the shade.

Vinyl Graphic Terms



Step 1, Clean the Surface: Clean the surface with by mixing a few drops of grease-cutting liquid dish washing liquid with water. DO NOT USE ANY PETROLEUM BASED CLEANER otherwise your vinyl may not adhere. After removing dirt and debris, wipe the surface clean with fresh, soap free water. Dry the surface with a lint free cloth (not paper towel)

Optional Step: After cleaning, wiping the surface with isopropyl alcohol will help remove any contamination and increase surface adhesion.

Step 2, Anchor with Masking Tape: Adhere the transfer with two pieces of masking tape. Place the tape at the top of either end of the transfer.

Optional Step: On vertical surfaces you may choose to run a horizontal strip of masking tape along the top of the service. This will help if you choose to cut in the graphic into sections after anchoring with masking tape.

Step 3, Hinge Large Graphics and Text: Omit this step if you have a small decal or graphic (under 8 inches). Place two side-by side vertical lengths of masking tape across the center of the decal or graphic. This will create a hinge and allow you to apply each side of the graphic separately. This makes it much easier to apply larger graphics.

Alternative Scissors Method on Lines of Text: If your graphic is lines of text, instead of creating a hinge with masking tape, cut vertically between each lines of text. This will create sections in your graphic. Make sure to avoid cutting through the masking tape that is anchoring your graphic. It is generally best to make a vertical cut every 12 inches.



Transfer Anchored with Masking Tape



Transfer Split into Panels Using Scissors Method



Removing Liner Using Scissors Method



Cutting Off Liner Using Hinge Method

Step 4, Remove the Release Liner: After removing any masking tape anchor from one side of your transfer, slowly peel the release liner starting on the outside of your graphic and decal. You will be peeling from the outside of your graphic until you reach the center masking hinge. If you touch any adhesive from the bottom of the transfer to the surface, it will stick and could ruin your job. Use your scissors to trim away the excess release liner.

Alternative Method for Small Decals: Starting at the bottom of the graphic, peel the release liner upwards until you reach the masking tape anchor on the top of the graphic. The liner should drop off once you reach the masking tape anchor. Make sure to avoid letting the transfer touch the surface until you are ready to apply.

Alternative Scissors Method for Lines of Text: Starting at the bottom of the graphic, for each section that you have cut with a scissors, peel the release liner upwards until you reach the masking tape anchor on the top of the graphic. The liner for each section should drop off once you reach the masking tape anchor. Make sure to avoid letting the transfer touch the surface until you are ready to apply. You will need to apply each section immediately after removing the liner. See below.

Step 5, Squeegee the Transfer: Hold your transfer by the application tape. You must be extremely careful not to allow the vinyl adhesive to touch the surface until you are prepared to squeegee. Starting at the center hinge (hinge method) or top of your transfer (alternative method) make soft overlapping strokes with the squeegee. When using the hinge method, remove the center hinge tape and slowly peel away the remaining release liner. Squeegee the other half of the transfer using the same method working from the center of the transfer to the edges. When using the alternative method for small decals and lines of text, squeegee from the center top of the graphic towards the center and then out to the sides. Use firm pressure on the squeegee to ensure that you have a minimum of air bubbles.

Step 6, Remove the Application Tape: Remove the application tape by slowly peeling at a sharp angle (45 °) If the vinyl appears to lift, gently replace the application tape over the trouble spot and resqueegee the area. Wetting the application tape with soapy water will help reduce lifting of the transfer. If you have bubbles in the vinyl, use a small pin or needle to puncture the center of the bubble and squeegee the air from the sides of the bubble out through the puncture hole. DO NOT use a razor blade or knife to puncture holes.

Alternative Wet Application Method: After removing the liner, wet both the surface and the adhesive on the transfer with application fluid or a mixture in a spray bottle of 20 ounces of water, 1/4 teaspoon of unscented clear liquid JOY and 1/2 teaspoon of Isopropyl Alcohol. You can slide the graphic into position while the surface is still wet. Squeegee out any air bubbles and wait 30 minutes to remove the application tape.

Step 7, Admire Your Work and Pat Yourself on Back



Squeegeeing Using Hinge Method



Squeegeeing Decal from Top Down



Squeegeeing Using Scissors Method



Removing Application Tape