

SIGNS / VEHICLE GRAPHICS

Vinyl Application Instructions

Tools You'll Need:

- Windex / Isopropyl Alcohol
- Paper Towels
- Roll of Masking Tape
- Ruler / Measuring Tape
- Squeegee
- Exacto-Knife / Needle

1 Cleaning: Clean the surface thoroughly with a soft cloth and cleaning solution. To remove oils, dirt, etc., use Windex, isopropyl alcohol, or any glass cleaner that won't leave a residue.

2 Placement and hinging:

Your decals come in three layers, like a sandwich: there's the backer sheet which protects the sticky side of the decal, the vinyl decal itself in the middle, and the semi-transparent transfer sheet on the top. Don't start peeling any of these layers apart yet; position the decal first. Tack the "decal sandwich" in place with a couple small pieces of tape. Measure for correct placement of the graphic, moving the tape and decal as necessary. Once the placement is correct, tape the decal in place along the top edge to create a "hinge."



3 Applying the decal: Flip the decal up and remove the backer sheet to expose the adhesive back of the vinyl decal. Holding the bottom of the whole decal sandwich up with one hand, reach underneath with the other hand, and start peeling off just the backer sheet from its top (nearest the tape hinge). For larger applications, don't peel the whole backer sheet off, just peel it about



halfway. Now, let go of that and just let the backer sheet hang. Still with the bottom of the sandwich in hand, grab the squeegee with the other hand. Starting at the top near the tape hinge, take your squeegee and make slow little snowplow movements back and forth on the top of the transfer sheet. Put some force into it, as you're pressing the sticky side of the decal onto the surface and you want it to stay, but don't rush and wrinkle it. Keep making little back and forth movements down

the surface of the transfer sheet, and you can pull off more of the hanging backer sheet when it gets in the way. If you get a wrinkle as you're working your way down, you can try pulling the transfer sheet and decal back up so you can put it down smoother, but be careful as the vinyl may tear or stretch when pulling it up. Once you're near enough to the bottom, pull the backer sheet all the way off being careful not to let the vinyl decal fall against the surface (particularly on the larger applications), and burnish the rest of the transfer sheet / decal sandwich onto the surface.

4 Remove the transfer sheet:

Now you've got the transfer sheet and the decal burnished to the surface, hopefully without wrinkles. Burnish quickly over the whole thing again, just to make sure the decal is securely stuck. Once you're confident of that, it's time to take the transfer sheet off. Pick one corner of the transfer sheet up with your fingernail, grab it, and start pulling the transfer sheet off the surface very slowly. Try to pull it at as low an angle as you can. If you see the decal coming up with the transfer sheet, get your squeegee and press them both down again, and then try to take the transfer sheet up again. Once you get the transfer sheet off, just your vinyl decal remains on the surface.



5 For larger decals:

Locate a vertical hinge (tape) down the center of the graphic; then cut and remove half the backer sheet.



6 Deflate air bubbles:

The last step is to take your Exacto-Knife or needle and pop any little air bubbles that may be between the decal and the surface. All you want to do is poke a tiny hole at the edge of any bubbles, and use your finger to press the air out of the hole. Don't worry about tiny air bubbles as most will flatten out in a few days.

