



## Graphic Installation – Wet/Dry Method

**CAUTION:** Once the shiny bottom “liner” is removed the adhesive is exposed. Do not let the exposed graphic touch any unintended surface. The back of the graphic is very tacky and will tightly adhere to whatever it touches, including itself. If the placement is not correct, removing the graphic for re-placement will be very difficult or impossible without causing damage to the vinyl. If you are shaky, use the wet method.

### Suggested Tools / Materials:

- Clean Spray Bottle
- Liquid Dishwashing Soap
- Rubbing Alcohol
- Blue Painter’s Tape or Masking Tape
- Lint Free Towel
- Plastic Squeegee
- Roll of Paper Towels

### STEP 1: CLEAN the glass!

Vinyl graphics stick best to smooth clean surfaces. To ensure good adhesion it is critical that you prepare the surface prior to any vinyl product installation.

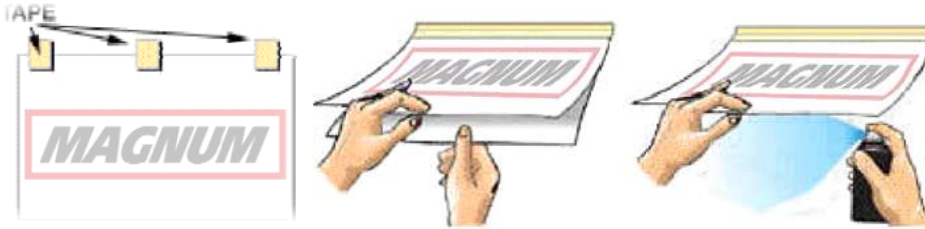
- Wash and rinse the area with liquid dish detergent and warm water, Then dry the surface with a clean, lint-free towel or cloth.
- Finish the cleaning process by wiping down the entire area with Isopropyl (rubbing) Alcohol. To avoid recontamination during the final cleaning step, wipe the surface in just one direction, using a clean, lint-free towel or cloth. Let the alcohol evaporate completely. You are now ready to apply the vinyl.

### Step 2: Decide on your Application Procedure:

You can choose to apply vinyl in one of two ways; dry or wet. Applying vinyl dry does not allow for any mistakes. It is mostly recommended for small graphics. Once the dry vinyl adhesive back touches a surface, there is no removal without damage. We suggest that all customers use the wet process for larger or complex graphics.

### Step 3: Make up some Wet Application Fluid:

You can make your own application fluid with 2 drops of dishwashing liquid (Dawn, Joy, or similar dishwashing soap) to 1 quart of water in a spray bottle.



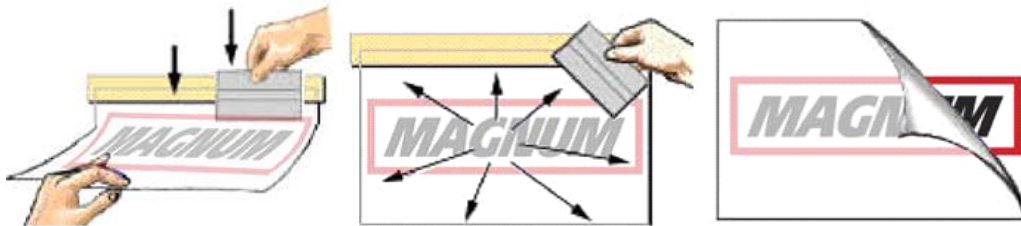
**Step 4: Measure where you want your graphic to be.**

Then tape in place on top side only to use as a hinge, using blue painters or masking tape.

**Step 5: Apply the graphic.**

Lift up the graphic away from the glass. Starting under the masking tape hinge, peel the bottom slippery "LINER" layer away from the graphic, to start exposing the adhesive underneath. Peel back the liner slowly until it is completely removed – keeping the graphic raised away from the glass.

To use the wet method placement, mist the graphic surface with a mixture of soap and water. **(Shown to the right)** Then mist the window surface as well, and wipe window using free hand to evenly spread the water around on the glass.



While still holding the PRE-MASKed graphic away from the window surface, use a squeegee (supplied) or any plastic straight edge to help in application. Start from the side with the tape and gently work away from the tape and squeegee out all water and soap.

**NOTE: The graphics have a pressure sensitive adhesive - the harder you rub the harder it sticks, also the longer you let it sit, the stronger the adhesive will adhere.**

Use your squeegee and apply pressure from the middle to the outward sides, this will remove all water and start the graphic adhesion. Let sit for 5 minutes before removing the PRE-MASK. If your graphic appears to not be

sticking, the fluid is still behind the decal, just squeegee again and let sit for 10-15 minutes. A dab with a soft cloth can also be useful.

**Step 6: Remove PRE-MASK.** Now you're ready to pull off your PRE-MASK layer and view your graphic. Gently pull it off, laying the PRE-MASK back against itself flat against the window as you go. If you see some vinyl start to come up with the PRE-MASK then lay it back down, squeegee, and wait a few minutes and try again.

Prick any air bubbles with a pin and rub down. Be sure that outer edges of decal are rubbed down smoothly and all liquid is forced out. This is essential for proper adhesion

Most graphics come to you pressed together in three layers as shown to the right. If not, the upper "Pre Mask" layer will be missing.

- The top layer is the **"transfer tape" or "pre-mask"**. It looks like wide masking tape or sometimes almost clear tape. It protects the graphic during shipment and is used to apply and protect your decal as you put it on your window. This layer may have visible wrinkles markings and stains on the surface but relax, the decal underneath is going to be fine.
- The middle layer is the **actual vinyl graphic**. This will lift off of the liner with your transfer tape when you're ready to apply the graphic.
- The bottom layer is the **backing or "LINER"**. This is the shiny waxy surface that protects the adhesive side in shipment.

## Vinyl Application Tips....

- Do not apply in cold weather (under 50 degrees) - adhesive may stick but will lift easily.
- Do not apply in extreme heat (over 90 degrees) - apply in the shade - Hot vinyl will get very soft and stretch making it ugly.
- **Do not use alcohol to apply** - it will destroy the adhesive. Just use it to clean your surface well, let it dry before trying to apply.
- Do not use ice scraper or putty knife on the graphic - sharp edges may cause it to lift or chip pieces off.
- Do not touch the adhesive backing of the decal - oils from your skin will prevent it from sticking.
- Before application make sure there is no wax or cleaning products on the window surface - adhesive may stick but will lift easily.

**Tip:** \* TIP After all the application tape has been removed, wipe area again with paper towel to remove excess water.