

VINYL GRAPHICS APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Before Application

1. Make sure the underlying surface is sound and free from dust, dirt and grease.
2. Do not apply to newly painted surfaces - paint must be fully cured prior to application.
3. If working outdoors choose a calm & dry day ideally with the temperature above 5°C.
4. Clean the surface prior to application with Meths (methylated spirit).
5. Just before applying the graphic, place it face up on a flat smooth surface and using the applicator provided, firmly smooth down the application tape over the entire area of the graphic to make sure the application tape is adhering to the graphic.

NOTE - If you are applying graphics to silicone polished surfaces or newly manufactured products (including Dodgers, Lifebuoys, Inflatable Dinghies etc) these are often coated with silicone during manufacture and this will stop the graphics from adhering. These items will need thorough cleaning with warm soapy water, then when completely dry, clean with Meths to ensure good adhesion.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRE-SPACED GRAPHICS

(Graphics supplied covered with a translucent or clear application tape)

Apply using the one of the methods detailed below.

Dry Application of Graphics - Recommended for smaller graphics, lettering and any graphics being applied to compound curved surfaces, textured surfaces and all Dodgers and fabric surfaces.

1. Position the graphic as supplied, with the semi transparent application paper & backing paper still in place. Using masking tape or similar, tape the graphic to the surface along one edge only - this effectively forms a hinge allowing the graphics to be flipped over exposing the backing paper, but remaining in the correct position.
2. Peel the backing paper off the graphic, exposing the adhesive. With large graphics you can peel off part of the backing initially, to give more control and then the rest later. Fold the graphic back over, so that the exposed adhesive side is facing the surface that it is to be applied to. Take care not to let any part touch down yet, keep the graphic approx 50mm away from the surface.
3. Using the applicator supplied smooth down the graphic working from the taped (hinged edge) to the outside edges. Always working carefully from areas of contact to the outside edges so that air is not trapped between the graphic and the surface.
4. When the whole graphic is smoothed down, carefully remove the application paper from the surface, leaving just the graphic in place. If there are any air bubbles below the surface these can be pierced with a pin or sharp knife and then smoothed down.

Wet Application of Graphics - Recommended for larger graphics being applied to a flat, smooth, rigid surface

Before starting we would recommend filling a hand spray bottle with water and a couple of drops of washing up liquid, as this is the easiest way to wet the surface and substrate.

1. Position the graphic as supplied, with the semi transparent application paper & backing paper still in place. Using masking tape or similar, tape the graphic to the surface along one edge only - this effectively forms a hinge allowing the graphics to be flipped over exposing the backing paper, but remaining in the correct position.
2. Peel the backing paper off the graphic, exposing the adhesive. Spray the back (adhesive side) of the graphic and the surface that it is being applied to with water. Make sure the whole surface is wet.
3. Fold the graphic back over, so that the exposed wet adhesive side is now facing the surface that it is to be applied to.
4. Using the applicator supplied smooth down the graphic working from the taped (hinged edge) to the outside edges. Always working carefully from areas of contact to the outside edges so that no air is trapped between the graphic and the surface.
5. When the whole graphic is smoothed down, leave for 3-4 minutes and then carefully remove the application paper from the surface, leaving just the graphic in place. Dry off thoroughly. If there are any air bubbles below the surface these can be pierced with a pin or sharp knife and then smoothed down.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR GRAPHICS WITHOUT APPLICATION TAPE

(Solid graphics, labels, plaques etc) This type of graphic will normally be supplied on 'Perfect Apply' material making it easier to apply without air becoming trapped underneath.

1. Position the graphic as supplied, with the backing paper still in place. Where possible, using masking tape or similar, tape the graphic to the surface along one edge only - this effectively forms a hinge allowing the graphics to be flipped over exposing the backing paper, but remaining in the correct position.

2. Start to peel the backing paper off the graphic, exposing the adhesive. Fold the graphic back over, so that the exposed adhesive side is facing the surface that it is to be applied to. Using the applicator supplied slowly smooth down the graphic working from the taped (hinged edge) slowly removing the backing paper as you go. Always work carefully from areas of contact to the outside edges so that air is not trapped between the graphic and the surface. Take care not to let any exposed adhesive part touch down before smoothing down with the applicator.

After Application

All vinyls have a time curing adhesive, meaning they stick better to the surface over time. The time it takes to fully cure down is temperature dependent and can vary from as little as 48 hours on a warm sunny day to several weeks if temperatures remain consistently low. Graphics must be allowed to cure fully before being used in severe conditions e.g. car washing, pressure washing or when used on or under the waterline.

Graphics can be cleaned using warm soapy water and a soft cloth. Avoid using abrasive or chemical/solvent cleaners.