

Surface Preparation

All surfaces must be thoroughly cleaned before applying your vinyl graphics. The goal is to get your surface as clean as possible. The cleaner your surface is the better the vinyl decal will adhere. This will greatly improve the life of your vinyl decal and will most likely adhere to your surface longer. Follow the instructions below for specific material cleaning procedures.

Plastics, Glass, Tile, Painted Metals, Base Metals and Interior Painted Surfaces

We recommend first cleaning these surfaces with a soap and water solution. Household dishwashing soap works fine. Next you'll need Denatured Alcohol to remove any residues. Although you can install decals after cleaning the surface with dishwashing soap we recommend using Denatured Alcohol because it will completely clean the surface. It helps remove residues that could be left from the soap/water solution. Also if you use car cleaning products such as car wax, Rain-X, or similar products these could possibly affect the application process of your decals. Denatured alcohol can remove these and other residues from the surface before applying your decals. It can be purchased at a local paint or hardware store and is relatively inexpensive. Always follow the instructions on the label. If it will be used on a painted surface make sure the instructions say it can be used for that purpose (or fiberglass if it's a boat) and test in an inconspicuous area. You'll want to dry the surface completely with a clean cloth or paper towel before applying the decal.

Temperature and Weather Conditions

The optimum temperature range for vinyl graphic adhesion is 60 - 80 degrees F. The air and surfaces should always be above 40 degrees F. Very high humidity (above 90 percent) may affect the application process. Also if possible try to work in a covered area this will help keep debris from landing on your surface. This also helps shield from wind and wind can become a big problem, especially if you're installing a very large vinyl graphic.

Multi-Color/Multi-Part Graphics

Graphics that have more than one color will come in multiple sections (one section per color). Graphics that are larger than 23 inches in width in one color will come in multiple sections also. These sections will have "registration marks" that are used to aid lining up the various sections. Registration Marks are squares with a circle in the center and are not meant to be left installed, but are not to be removed until all sections of the graphic are installed. If any colors or sections overlap, then the color under the others must be installed first (ie a Blue lettering with a yellow boarder will have the yellow installed first and the blue installed on top of the yellow). Install the first section of the graphic where desired including the registration marks. Then install the second section while lining up the registration marks of the second section with the registration marks of the first section. Repeat until all sections are installed. Remove the registration marks and clean up any adhesive residue. On standard color graphics (not reflective or carbon fiber look), a fine mist of soapy water (1qt water to 10 drops dish soap) may be used to help the graphics "slip" which can aid in lining up the registration marks Do not get the graphics wet until the baking paper is removed.

Materials Needed

1. Small cutting knife or razor blade (the kind with breakable blades is ideal) - Used to separate the graphic if needed.
2. Plastic Squeegee (Plastic credit card will work fine also) - Used to smooth out and flatten the vinyl decal.
3. Sewing Pin. Chances are you'll get bubbles in your installation job, this happens with 90% of vinyl installations.
Use this to prick any bubbles to release trapped air under the graphic.
4. Roll of Masking Tape - Used to hold the decal to the surfaces during installation, and to insure the decal is level.



The graphic consists of three separate pieces.

- Pre-mask
- Vinyl Graphic
- Liner

ReflectiGlow

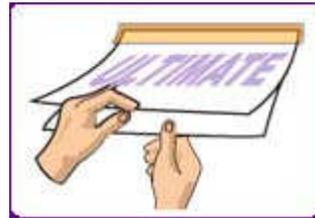
Reflective Motorcycle Accessories

1. Lay the graphic face down on a flat work area. Using a squeegee, credit card, or any flat item, firmly rub graphic area starting from the center and moving out toward the edges. This is to insure that the decal is attached to the "PREMASK".



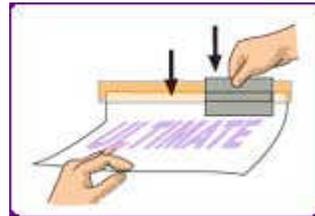
Apply a single horizontal strip of 2" masking tape to the top of the graphic. The strip should be split between the graphic and the surface with 1" on each side (as shown). This strip will be used as a hinge that will insure the graphic does not move during the application process.

2. Hold the bottom edge of the hinged graphic away from the surface and remove the "LINER" to reveal the sticky backing of the vinyl.



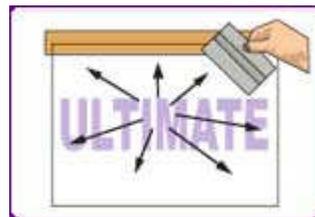
CAUTION: Do not let the exposed graphic fall onto the surface. The back of the graphic is very tacky and will tightly adhere to the surface. If the placement is not correct, removing the graphic for replacement will be very difficult or impossible without causing damage to the vinyl.

3. While still holding the hinged graphic away from the surface. Use the squeegee and go from top to bottom, begin to merge the graphic to the surface.



Notes: Work from top to bottom. Do not let the entire graphic fall onto the surface. If lines or creases develop, lift and re-place the graphic.

4. Once the graphic is in proper position and lying perfectly flat on the surface. Go from the center working outward, use firm strokes with the squeegee to insure the elements adhere to the surface.



5. Gently remove the "PRE-MASK". Be careful not to pull the graphic up with the "PRE-MASK" paper. Applying a mist of water and allowing it to moisten the "PRE-MASK" can aid in its removal.

