

Application to Plastics

Most plastics do not generally present a problem for the application of vinyl. However certain types of plastic substrate may present a problem as follows.

Substrate	Considerations
Flexible PVC (Banner)	Flexible PVC's such as banners and vehicle curtain sides gain their flexibility from the use of plasticizers, which are prone to migration, causing distortion of applied vinyl graphics. Use MetaFlex for application to banners, or curtain grade film for curtain sides.
Polycarbonates	Polycarbonates are prone to out-gassing and this gas can become trapped underneath the vinyl, forming unsightly bubbles.
Polypropylene	These are 'low energy' plastics, and adhesion may be limited.
Fibreglass	Ensure that the wax film used as a mould release agent is fully cleaned off, and also check to ensure that the material is completely cured

Application to Wood

Vinyl can be applied to wood, taking into account some precautions. The wood must be sealed, by paint or primer. It must be a smooth flat surface - the grain in wood can cause adhesion problems if it is too pronounced. Finally, ensure that any paint is correctly applied to avoid the vinyl pulling the paint off the wood.

Application to Glass

There are a number of precautions to be taken when applying vinyl to glass. Adhesion can be a problem in cold conditions, areas of high moisture, and where the glass has been cleaned with silicon based window cleaners. Use isopropyl alcohol to clean the window, and ensure the surface is warm before attempting application. With a wet application leave the graphics overnight before removing the application tape.

Avoid covering the windows with large areas of dark coloured vinyl. The vinyl can cause prolonged heat absorption and retention and can cause the glass to crack or explode. This is particularly of a concern with laminated glass, double glazing, and large areas of vinyl. The stress levels created in the glass are determined by its dimensions, the type of glass, orientation, colour of vinyl and a number of other factors so it is important that the installer determines whether applying the vinyl to glass is appropriate.

Application to Painted Surfaces

Sound painted surfaces are generally suitable for the application of vinyl although the paint must be fully cured before application. For vehicles a general guideline is to allow at least 5 days after painting before the application of vinyl, although this may be longer if the initial coats of paint have not been allowed to cure before the next coat applied.

Two pack paints on vehicles provide a more stable surface than cellulose paints, as the latter will continue to give off solvent whilst hardening, and this solvent can become trapped under the vinyl causing bubbling. A test application in a small area is recommended if you have any doubts about the quality of the paint finish.

Please Note: The above data is given in good faith to provide an indication of the performance of the product. Purchasers should consider the suitability of each product for its intended use and the purchaser assumes all risks in connection with such use. Seller shall not be liable for damages in excess of the purchase price of the product nor for incidental nor consequential loss.