



**fleetgraphics**

## Applying a Simple Decal

Please note that different to *transfers*, decals are applied to a dry surface. We strongly recommend that decals be applied by experienced and qualified applicators but understand that there are times when this is not possible and the job is rather simple. If you are unsure about any of the steps below then we suggest you seek qualified assistance.

### There are 3 parts to a decal

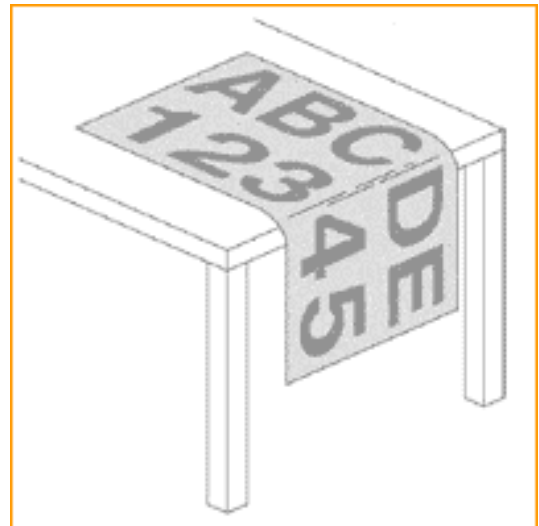
- Application tape, the top layer of low tack paper used to protect the decal which is removed when the decal has been finally applied
- The decal layer which has an adhesive back
- Backing sheet

### Tools you will need

- Methlyated spirits
- Lint free cloth
- A low tack tape such as masking tape
- Squeegee

### Steps involved

**1.** For a good result all surfaces having decals applied need to be cleaned otherwise adhesion will be compromised. We suggest cleaning the area with methylated spirits then leaving the surface to dry or wiping dry with a lint free cloth.





**2.** Position the graphic, using strips of masking tape to hold the graphic to the substrate. Then, apply a strip of masking tape 5 to 8 cm wide, horizontally across the top of the graphic.

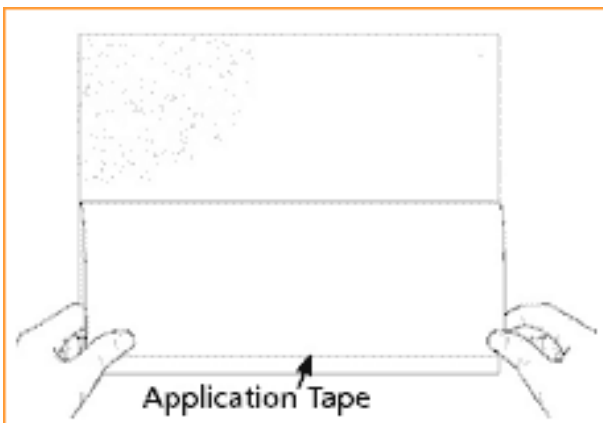
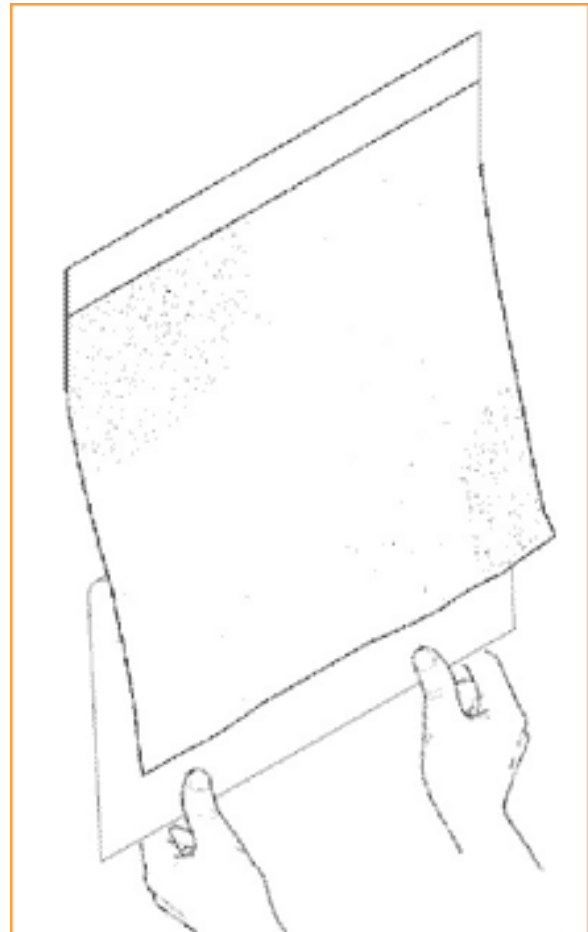
**3.** Raise the graphic up over the top of the hinge and peel the liner back a few centimetres.

*Note: The entire liner may be removed at this time, if desired. However, for very large graphics, especially those with a pressure-sensitive adhesive, leaving the liner in place just prior to squeegeeing makes the graphic more controllable, keeps the adhesive clean, and reduces the possibility of stretching the film.*

**4.** Using care not to stretch the graphic, hold the graphic near bottom center and begin squeegeeing at the top center. Squeegee the graphic beginning at the center of the tape hinge and working outward from the hinge to the closest edge. Use firm pressure on the plastic applicator and overlapping strokes.

*Note: Pull the squeegee, rather than pushing it. Pushing can stretch the graphic*

**5.** Keep the graphic away from the surface and use two hands to peel back the liner a few more centimetres. Then, continue squeegeeing the graphic using the technique described above.



**6.** Continue to gradually remove the liner and squeegee until the entire graphic is applied.

**7.** Remove the tape hinge. Squeegee the top edge and remove the application tape.

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