

# ADC *hobbystore*

## Vinyl Decal Installation Recommendations

1. Before proceeding with the decal installation, make sure the covering in the desired installation area is fairly free of wrinkles and/or bubbles. Smooth out as many of the wrinkles and/or bubbles as possible to ensure the decals are being installed on the flattest/smoothest surface possible. Installation starts with thoroughly cleaning the surface and/or object where the decal is to be applied. Use Windex or equal and lightly spray onto a dust/lint free cloth. Then gently clean the surface of the material in which the decal is to be applied to, and allow ample time for any streaks of the cleaning solution to completely dry. Alcohol may be required to remove any persistent debris such as glue/tape residue, and then cleaned with Windex or equal. Verify that the surface is completely free of dust/lint and debris before proceeding. Test fit each decal in the desired installation area before removing the paper backing and beginning the installation. For smaller decals, in which the customer is comfortable installing without aligning and taping the decal down to the selected installation surface, proceed to step 3.
2. **Larger Decals** – align as required, then apply a couple pieces of low tack tape, such as blue painters tape, along one edge of the decal to hold it down in the desired installation area.



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Measure as required to ensure the decal is located in the desired installation area, and make sure the decal is sitting flat and is somewhat taught against the installation surface. Next, run a solid strip of the same low tack tape across the entire edge that has been tacked down.



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Flip up the side of the decal that is opposite the side that has been tacked down.



*While the decal is flipped, gently remove the paper backing from the vinyl decal. You may need to work the clear application tape back onto the paper with the vinyl decal several times to get all sections of the decal to adhere to the clear application tape layer.*



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*Grab the vinyl installation squeegee included with your kit (if applicable), and gently grab the clear application tape layer towards the middle/center of the decal, trying to avoid putting your fingers on the actual vinyl decal itself. Gently pull the decal up/away from the installation surface, and keep it fairly taught and without slack. At this point, extremely large decals may need to be cut/sliced into separate sections for a piece by piece installation. If you notice a considerable sag at the end points of the decal, almost to the point where the ends are touching the installation surface, you may need to take the piece by piece approach and gently cut/slice the clear application tape layer into multiple sections and install each section separately, one at a time.*



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*Begin applying the decal to the installation surface. Try and start in the middle, and gently work small sections of the decal onto the installation surface, starting from the top edge being held in place by the tape.*



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*Go across the decal from left to right in uniform fashion, while slowly working towards the bottom of the decal to ensure an even installation. Keep the decal fairly taught, but allow it to fall onto the surface as the pressure from the squeegee pushes it down.*



Once the decal has been completely applied, using a little pressure, run your finger over all areas of the vinyl decal to ensure it completely sticks down to the applied surface. If the decal runs across a hinge line, gently slice through the application tape, and decal at the center of the hinge line at this time with a sharp Xacto blade, and press the decal down into the hinge line on all sides using your finger. Then gently remove the low tack tape and clear application tape layer in a uniform fashion and only the vinyl decal will remain.



3. **Small Decals** - align and test fit as required. Gently remove the paper backing from the vinyl decal. You may need to work the clear application tape back onto the paper with the vinyl decal several times to get all sections of the decal to adhere to the clear application tape layer. Once the clear application tape layer with the vinyl decal has been completely separated from the paper backing, begin applying the decal, by sticking one end down then slowly smoothing the decal over the applied surface in a uniform up/down, left/right, fashion using your fingers and moderate pressure, until you reach the other end. Once the entire decal has been applied, using a little pressure, run your finger over all areas of the vinyl decal to ensure it firmly and completely sticks down to the applied surface. Then gently remove the clear application tape layer in a uniform fashion and only the vinyl decal will remain.

4. **General Care Information** - These decals are intended for permanent use. Improper removal of these decals could damage the surface of the applied material, and will ruin the decal itself. Proper decal removal consists of using a heat gun, on a very low setting, and slowly warming up the decal to enable the glue to release some of its holding ability. Then gently remove one section of the decal at a time. Decal removal is not recommended. Your decals may be very gently patted clean with a dust/lint free cloth and Windex or equal. Be extremely careful not to catch any of the corners of the vinyl decal with the cloth, this is why we recommend a patting method. Using a standard wiping method will cause sections of the decal to get caught on the cloth and be pulled up from the applied surface. This especially applies to any decal corners or decals with sharp angled points. Decals will hold up to light heat gun application that may be required from time to time to remove wrinkles in the covering material.

**NOTE:** DO NOT USE a Heat Gun on Diamond Plate, Carbon Fiber or Brushed Aluminum Vinyl. It is recommended that a Covering Iron w/ a Sock be used at 125-150 degrees along hingelines to smooth the vinyl down into the hingeline transition.

Thanks again for your decal purchase!!!