

## Cutting

Initially perform a test cut on the material. Peel back the cut vinyl and check the cut to ensure that the blade has just marked the silicone layer of the release liner. Then look at the reverse (printed) side of the release liner and check that an impression of the cut is not visible on the reverse of the liner. If such a mark can be seen, the cut is too deep and can cause paper de-lamination when weeding as well as premature blade wear and damage.

It is important to remember that the choice of cutting weight and depth is dependent on the film type, with cast materials requiring the least pressure and speciality materials such as polyester and reflective vinyls the most. For general guidelines refer to the plotter's manual. Certain speciality materials such as fluorescent and reflective vinyls and sandblast vinyl will require a greater blade angle and a slower cutting speed, as will materials with a polyester face film.

## Weeding

When weeding, short sharp snatches can often prove the cleanest method, particularly where text has sharp serifs. Correct cutting will save weeding time. Cutting and weeding can prove difficult in cold or hot conditions and it is important to weed the graphic shortly after cutting to avoid adhesive bleed that will make weeding difficult, particularly in hot conditions.

This polyester tinting film is suitable for application where one-way visibility is required for vehicle and architectural applications. The film relies on light differences to function, ie: visibility will be restricted from the side where there is a greater light level.

## Application Method

The following is a recommended method for accurately aligning and applying sign vinyl decals.

Once the decal has been cut and weeded, and application tape applied, it can be offered up to the substrate and carefully aligned in its final position.

Apply a 50mm tab of masking tape to fix each end in place horizontally. Apply a third strip of masking tape vertically across the centre from top to bottom; the tape should extend above and below the decal and fix it to the substrate.

Start with the right hand side of the decal and cut or tear the 50mm strip of masking tape, leaving half on the substrate. Turn the right hand side of the graphic back on itself. Peel away the silicone release liner, cutting it at the centre point where the vertical masking tape fixes the decal to the substrate, and discard. When peeling decals away from the silicone release liner always try to keep them as flat as possible and peel back the release liner towards you. This will reduce the chance of damage to fine details or serifs.

The first half of the decal can now be lightly applied by holding it taut and using the two parts of the 50mm masking tape tab to align it perfectly. Squeegee down firmly.

## Application Temperature

In cold conditions vinyl can become brittle and harder to cut, thus requiring unnecessary adjustment of the cutting depth. It can also make application difficult, as the initial adhesion of the vinyl will be reduced and the time taken for the adhesive to cure completely will be longer. The recommended application temperature for applying vinyls using a 'dry application method' is at least 10°C and for a 'wet application method' is at least 17°C. Application in temperatures below 5°C is not recommended.

When applying vinyl graphics to a vehicle in cold weather always try to work indoors and raise the temperature of the vehicle by using a fan heater inside with the vehicle doors open. When this is not possible, for example an exterior application in winter conditions, it is very important to make absolutely sure that the adhesive has established a good bond to the substrate.

The service temperature range stated in the technical data sheets for each type of vinyl is the recommended temperature when in use.

**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.