

**PLEASE READ THIS BEFORE STARTING TO APPLY YOUR DECALS
THIS WILL INSURE A QUALITY FINISH**

1. Clean the area you intend to apply the vinyl sticker to remove any dirt and grease, you must also remove any car polish that has been applied. To do this, use some warm soapy water with Fairy Liquid or similar, this works well as it strips any wax layers from the cars paint work or plastic bits.
Remember to rinse the area first to remove the loose dust and dirt to avoid scratching the paint work and then dry the area with a clean, lint free cloth.
2. Small vinyl stickers can be applied either dry or with a mildly soapy water solution, the latter allows easier positioning before final placement and pressing out of any water from under the sticker to secure it in place. This is best done with a clean spray bottle filled with water, then add 3 ~ 4 drops of washing up liquid. You only need a few tiny drops to do the job, as it's just to make the water slippery. However feel the solution, as larger spray bottles may need more than a few drops to provide the required slickness.
3. If using the dry application method, start at one end of the sticker and using a flat squeegee of some description (credit card shape, semi-rigid plastic), work from one side to the other to stop any air bubbles being trapped under the vinyl. Actual vinyl graphic squeegee's can be brought from Ebay quite cheaply and have a non-scratch felt edge, which is useful for when apply vinyl to car body panels. In the case of graphics with low tack making tape holding the letters in place for application, again start at one side and work your way across the sticker, keeping the far end slightly raised above the panel so as to stop it sticking down and this allows any air to be squeegee'd out to avoid any air bubbles being trapped. Then once applied, gently peel back the low-tack tape at right angles to the sticker to remove it and leave the vinyl graphic in place.
4. Wet application of stickers and we advise Sumo's to be fitted this way, can be useful to those not used to applying stickers, as it allows more time in positioning of the sticker, before using a squeegee again to press out the soapy water solution from underneath. Spray the soapy solution onto both the panel to be vinyl'd and adhesive side of the sticker as you peel it away from the backing paper, as this stops it sticking to itself. Application this way helps minimize bubbles under the graphic and allows the adhesive to contact the panel only once the fitter is ready to let it do so.
However care should be taken to allow sufficient drying time after application, to allow the small amount of water left between the sticker and panel to evaporate and allow the vinyl's adhesive to stick to the panel.
With stickers held in position with low tack masking tape, a little more time is required to allow the water to evaporate before removing the tape. If this is done too quickly, then the stickers can come away with the tape. If this happens try to press it back down again using your squeegee from the middle out and then leave some more drying time. One drawback to wet application is when applying stickers to curved or multiple curved surfaces, as the water will not allow full adhesion until it has evaporated and the sticker will try to lift/move.
Gentle heat from a hair dryer can help speed up the evaporation of the water solution, but be careful if this is being done on plastics or car body work not to make the area too hot! A little extra time using a gentle heat approach is best here.