



Directions for mounting DryAP CLEARCOATABLE decals

- 1) Remove needed decals from the protective bags. Always store the unused decals in sealed bags and/or in a air tight covered container (i.e. Rubbermaid or Tupperware) to prevent deterioration of the adhesive and plasticizer lose. It is highly recommended to store the decals in a cool, dark, slightly humid area. heat, UV light, and dryness can all have a detrimental effect on the flexibility of the product over the long term.
- 2) This type of decal is produced with five layers of stock or printed substances, 1) support paper, 2) self releasing clear plastic film, 3) image areas, 4) adhesive layer, 5) silicone release liner. The stock consists of the first two layers, the support paper is coated with a adhesive layer which holds the self releasing clear plastic film in position during the printing process. The decal itself is constructed with various layers of clears and the colored image itself. The final printing is a film of pressure sensitive used to bond the decal to your frame. The final layer is the silicone impregnated release liner used to protect the adhesive, and allow us to send you stacks of individual thin decals not one big fat stack of paper, plastic, and ink stuck together.
- 3) To mount the decal, first remove the silicone release liner exposing the back of the decal and the printed adhesive. Then starting at a corner of the support paper peel up the self releasing clear plastic film on which the decal is printed. It is important to do this step slowly and smoothly as to not cause the decal to prematurely start releasing from the clear film. Holding the clear plastic by the corners and above the object to be decaled, align the decal in position and apply. It is imperative that the decal be in correct position before you apply to much pressure. Rub the decal down with your fingers, being careful not to trap air bubbles. At this point, using a clean dry rag, buff the decal down by rubbing the rag back and forth. This serves two purposes. First it bonds the adhesive to the frame with a combination of heat and pressure. Secondly, the rubbing loosens up the releasing agent that is bonded to the back side (squeegeeing side) of the clear film. Thirdly, rubbing the decal down before squeegeeing the decal down will eliminate the possibility of stretching the decal while squeegeeing. This in turn, will eliminate stress cracks, which could appear up to 2 weeks after mounting. **THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS STEP CANNOT BE UNDERSTATED.**
- 4) Burnish the decal down with some sort of hard burnisher: a bondo squeegee or some other form of hard plastic applicator works the best. Be sure to burnish down the entire decal, reburnish the decal again. This second burnishing will cause the clear stock to move laterally, which separates the clear from the now mounted decal. This is how the release is achieved. you can actually see the two separate at this time. (Do not attempt to burnish the decal down once and then peel the stock up, this will cause the decal to rip and create a major scrap problem.) Slowly peel back the clear film making sure all areas of the decal have released properly. If any haven't reburnish again.
- 5) After removing the clear film, examine the decal to make sure the decal is laying flat on the frame. If any wrinkles, bubbles, or flaws remain reapply the clear film and work the area with burnisher. Large bubbles can be poked with a pin an burnished.
- 6) Buff the decal down with a clean dry lint free rag. Nylon or polyester work much better, than cotton, because they will leave no fibers stuck to the edge of the decals.
- 7) At this point, any tiny bubbles or waves in the decals will flatten themselves out with in about one half hour. Heating the decal slightly will speed this up. The decal is now ready for clearcoating.