



Directions for mounting VINYL & MYLAR decals with or without application tape

- 1) Always store unused decals in resealable storage bags or a sealable container (i.e. rubbermaid or tupperware) this will not only keep the decals sorted and clean, but it will also protect the decals from major atmospheric changes which will effect the properties of the adhesives used in the various layers of these decals.
- 2) Take steps to make sure the surface you are mounting on is free of waxes, silicones, buffing compounds, anodizing sealers, and dirt or grease. Remove needed decals from the storage containers. Starting at a corner of the decal stock peel up the clear application tape. Sometimes the decal will remain down on the silicone liner stock, if so, lower the application tape back down over the edge of the decal, and burnish with your fingernail. Peel up application tape again bringing along the decal.
- 3) Looking through the clear, or paper, application tape, line the decal up to the surface you are mounting on, this line up is critical because once you tack (touch) the decal down to the surface... that's where it will stay.
- 4) Once you have positioned the decal take care in rubbing it down. It works best to first tack down the center of the decal and then slowly rubbing down the rest to the decal working from the center out to the edges, doing one side at a time. This rubbing can either be done with your fingers or a soft rag.
- 5) Now Burnish the decal down with a medium hard plastic squeegee (again working from the center out to the edges.)
- 6) Peel back the application tape slowly until it separates from the leading edge of the decal. if the decal wants to lift up, burnish the decal again. It works best to separate the decal on a corner verses on a long flat section.
- 7) At this point, some milkiness or dotted areas, may still be present under the clear areas of the decal. (Actually they are also under the printed images.) This is where the pressure sensitive adhesive has not totally bonded down to the substrate. Generally these small areas will disappear within about 30 minutes.
- 8) As with all adhesive mountable decals the bond will take about one week to really grab with a full bond taking about one month.

Trouble Shooting

- A) If the decal doesn't want to stick to the substrate or release from the application tape, the probable cause is temperature, adhesives are all thermal sensitive. They have a optimum working range of 65 to 85 degrees. A 50 degrees bicycle frame might as well be a sheet of waxed paper.
- B) Trapped air bubbles can be popped with a pin and carefully reburnished, but the best thing is to be more careful in the application.
- C) One unsightly problem involved with adhesive based decals in that dirt will stick to the adhesive on the very edge of the decal. the best way to prevent this problem is to seal the edge of the decal with clear wax. This can be done within a hour or so on dry mounted decal. If you have used soap and water to mount, you will need to wait several days to ensure that all the moisture has been allowed to evaporate.
- D) Heat also works great in removing old dried on decals also.
Try a hair dryer.

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