

# Vehicle Graphic Installation Requirements

## Application Temperature and Environment

For the best success with the films recommended for vehicle graphics, always apply the graphics when the **air and vehicle surface are both above 60°F (16°C)**.

**If the temperature is too cool**, move the vehicle indoors to bring its surface temperature up to at least the minimum application temperature.

- Films are not able to maintain the elevated temperatures required for stretching; films will cool too quickly.
- The initial bond of the adhesive may be insufficient to ensure the film stays adhered.
- Moisture may condense on the vehicle surface if the temperature of the vehicle surface is below the dew point.
- In very humid conditions, it may be difficult to keep the substrate dry.

**If the temperature is too warm**, move the vehicle indoors or into the shade and be sure the vehicle surface cools to below 90°F (32°C) before beginning the installation.

- Graphics may pre-adhere thereby trapping air.
- The adhesive will be more aggressive.
- Films may lose their positionability feature.
- The film may stretch.

## Post-Application Condition Requirement\*

After application of the graphic, keep the vehicle temperature above 60°F (16°C) for as long as possible - **at least 12 hours** - before exposing the vehicle to either a **cold** or **wet** climate; this strengthens the graphic's bond.

## Other Areas of Concern

**Pre-Installation Inspection Record** : complete a pre-installation inspection record for each vehicle installation prior to installing vehicle graphics. Carefully and thoroughly examine each vehicle and record all potential problem areas prior to installation.

- Defects: loose paint, dents, rough surface, fillers used for damage, rust or blistered paint.
- Areas where water can collect, which are more likely to rust, resulting in paint adhesion problems.

Identify all areas on the vehicle where the graphics may tend to lift such as in concave channels, inside wheel wells and other underside areas of the vehicle. Avoid areas at the underside of the vehicle. These areas are usually too difficult to clean sufficiently for proper film adhesion.

Avoid applying graphics to unpainted plastic substrates, manufacturers do not warrant the application of film to textured plastic substrates under any circumstances. However, if you wish to try, using heat and a rivet brush to conform the film to the texture may be satisfactory for an unwarranted application.

Do not apply the films to rubber, silicone or flexible plastics. The adhesion on the recommended films does not adhere to these materials.

*\*Spry Sign & Graphics Company uses the above manufacturers' application techniques, but has no control over vehicle care and conditions after application of graphics. Because we can not insure post-application condition requirements are adhered to, we can not warrant graphics applications installed at client's premises.*