

# VEHICLE CARE



Care for your vehicle graphics like you would any fine paint finish. Using high quality products designed specifically for car care and these cleaning and maintenance procedures will help keep your 3M vehicle graphics looking their best.

## WASH REGULARLY

Wash whenever the car appears dirty. Contaminants allowed to remain on the graphic may be more difficult to remove during cleaning.

Rinse off as much dirt and grit as possible with a spray of water.

Rinse thoroughly with clean water. To reduce water spotting, immediately use a silicone squeegee to remove water and finish with a clean microfiber cloth.

We do not recommend using wax or other similar coatings on vehicle graphics.

Brush-type car washes are not recommended as they can abrade the film and cause edges to lift or chip, as well as dulling the film's appearance.

Avoid pressuring washing vinyl graphics.

## DIFFICULT CONTAMINANTS

Soften difficult contaminants such as bug splatter, bird droppings, tree sap and similar contaminants by soaking them for several minutes with very hot, soapy water. Rinse thoroughly and dry. If further cleaning is needed, test one of these products in an inconspicuous area to ensure no damage to the graphics: Meguiar's Gold Class™ Bug and Tar Remover or 3M™ Citrus Base Cleaner. Isopropyl alcohol (IPA) (two parts IPA to 1 part water) or denatured alcohol may also help. Spot clean the contaminants. Do not use rough scrubbing or abrasive tools, which will scratch the film. Wash and rinse off all residue immediately.

## FUEL SPILLS

Wipe off immediately to avoid degrading the vinyl and adhesive. Then wash, rinse and dry.

## STORE INDOORS OR UNDER COVER

Vinyl graphics (just like paint) are degraded by prolonged exposure to sun and atmospheric pollutants, particularly on the horizontal surfaces such as hood, trunk lid and roof. Whenever possible, store in a garage or at least in a shaded area during the day. At night protect the car from dew or rain, which may contain acidic pollutants (a common problem in many large metropolitan areas). When a garage is not available, consider using a cloth car cover at night. If your graphics start to discolor or turn brown, immediately remove the graphics from the vehicle to avoid staining the underlying paint.

## WINDOW GRAPHICS

Never use an ice scraper on or near your window graphics as it can cause the material to scratch, stretch, or tear. If a scraper must be used, pay close attention to the edges of the window graphic to keep the scraper from affecting the material.

## \*NOTE

Watch out for small imperfections that can occur over time due to weather changes and/or installation obstacles. Things such as lifting and bubbling need to be brought to our attention right away so that we can determine the best remedy.



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