Application Instructions for Avery Dennison™ Automotive Window Film

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1.0 Consult Product Data Sheet & Local Tinting Legislation

- Before applying the product, consult the appropriate product data sheet for information regarding recommended substrates and product performance. Once assured that all factors are understood concerning the product, and all factors comply with the product recommendations, the application procedure can begin.
- Before applying the product, the user shall determine the suitability of the product for its intended use. The user shall ensure that the application and the intended use of the product are by any applicable laws and regulations concerning the use of automotive window film, and the user assumes all risk and liability in connection therewith.



2.0 Tools

These are some of the recommended tools as a starting point.
The brands and styles of tools may vary. These tools are available from a variety of suppliers in the industry. Amazon links have been provided as a reference.

2.1 Application Tools

- Toolbelt - to hold all application tools
- Cutter with break-off blades
- Stainless Steel replacement break-off blades (59°)
- 4” Teflon hard card Squeegee (Black or Blue)
- Gator Blade Chizler Tool
- Alt 1" Razor Blade Scraper Tool
- Unger Handle w/ Blue Maxor fusion tools
- 6” channel squeegee with Unger Handle
- Yellow Turbo (5.5” squeegee)
- Professional Heat Gun
- Drop Clothes or towels
- Absorbent Rope
- Lint Free Paper Towels
- Glass Surface Cleaning Pad
- Baby Shampoo - to make slip solution
- Spray Bottle, Spray Tank or Backpack Sprayer System
  with Soap and water mixture (1 part baby shampoo/20 parts water)

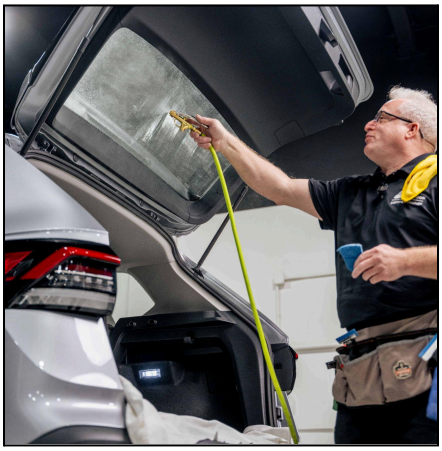
2.1 Additional Useful Tools

- VLT Meter
- IWFA State Laws

3.0 Storage conditions

Store Automotive Window Film in a cool dry place at the recommended conditions of 70° F (21° C) and 40 - 50% relative humidity. Avoid extreme temperature ranges in storage conditions. For long-term storage keep the film in the original package with a plastic roll cover. Proper storage allows the film to keep its maximum performance and enables a hassle-free application. The user assumes all risk and liability for the loss of performance when the film is stored improperly by the user.

4.0 Preparation and cleaning of the windows



Place the vehicle to be tinted in a clean, dust-free, and well-lit environment.

NOTE: If the windows have felt window moulding or seals, install blue painters tape on the door felts around the frame before any cleaning begins to keep the loose felt material from getting washed into the film during installation.

Maintaining a clean environment is essential for a successful installation. Please follow these steps for proper window preparation:



1. Initial Cleaning: Spray the interior and exterior surfaces with a solution of water and baby shampoo.
2. Scrub and Scrape: Use a white scrubby pad and a razor blade to thoroughly clean the glass, edges, and moldings. Scrub the surface first, then use the razor blade to scrape the glass.
- Important: Do not use a razor blade on the inside of the rear window to avoid damaging the defroster lines.
3. Rear Window Care: Since defroster lines are made of silkscreen dye and pewter silver, they can tarnish. Scrub the back window thoroughly to ensure no tarnish residue remains.
4. Squeegee: Rewet the window and use a 6" Unger squeegee (or equivalent) to wipe it dry.
5. Final Wipe: Use a clean, lint-free cloth to remove any remaining water or residue from the edges. Ensure the surface is completely free of fibers and dust.

If further cleaning is needed, it is possible to repeat this process as many times as needed.

Pay attention to properly cleaning and wiping or rinsing along the window's bottom seal edges, top corners, and rubber gaskets.

Before installation, ensure that the window surface is spotless without any dirt or residues, to avoid dust bubbles and imperfection in the applied film. If needed, repeat the cleaning procedure.

5.0 Installation of the film

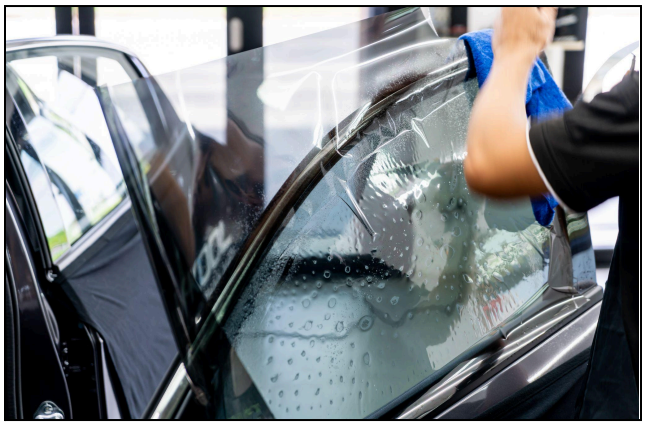


5.1.1 Fixed Side Windows
For fixed windows, after shrinking the film, cut the film leaving a small overlap on the painted border of the window, if the window does not have a black border trim it to the visible edge of the glass or molding.

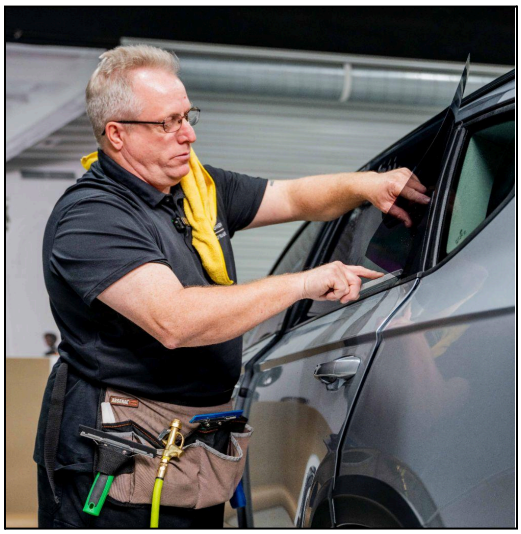
To avoid cutting directly on the car window a permanent marker to mark the edge of the glass or black border of the window on the film and then cut the film to the shape of a glass on a glass peel board or table.



5.1.2 Roll Down Side Windows



Position the film on the exterior of the window with the backing and adhesive/liner facing the outside of the glass.
Using a red dot knife with a sharp blade, trim the film to the shape of the window, cutting it to the shape of the glass.
Make sure that the film is positioned on the window with the factory edge at the top and bottom of the glass.
As the next step make sure any fingers in the film are at the bottom perpendicular to the factory edge of the film, begin heating the film with a heat gun if needed, and shrink the bottom edge of the film to the curve of the window.
When heat-shrinking the film, pay attention to heating the film uniformly and do not hold the heat gun in one spot for too long; this will help avoid damage to the film and door rubber from overheating.
Please keep in mind that ceramic films may require more heat to activate the shrinking process than our other Avery Dennison auto films.



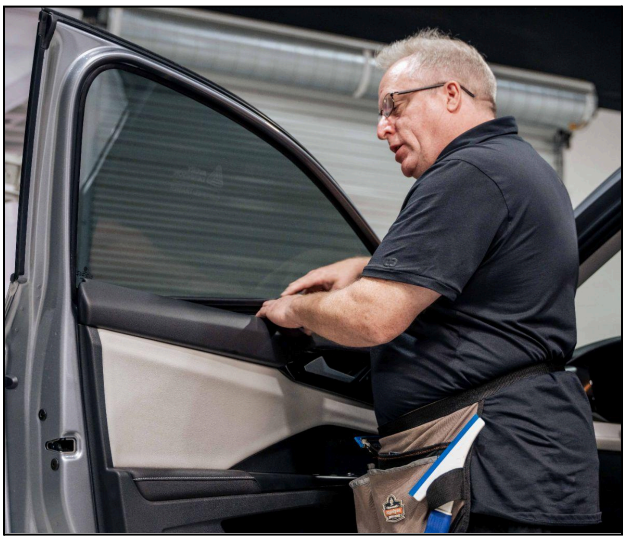
After cutting the film to size, clean the inside of the window again with the water & soap solution.
During cleaning, make sure to protect the interior of the car from the soapy water and heat gun..

When the surface is prepared, remove the liner from the film to expose the adhesive and wet it with the slip solution.
During this procedure, working in a clean environment is very important to avoid any dust/dirt entrapment in the film adhesive.



Position the film on the inside of the window and align at the top end. Make sure that the interior glass and adhesive side are sufficiently wet to allow the film to slide for easy positioning of the film. Be careful during this phase to avoid the formation of wrinkles on the film surface.

Once the top edge of the film is correctly positioned and aligned with the top of the window, it has been anchored in place with the squeegee and will not slide down. Proceed with installing the bottom edge of the film by sliding it behind the door panel/window felt until it is flat.
Continue by removing the water from beneath the film by squeegeeing the film, starting from the middle outwards and side to side, working your way to the bottom of the window. An angled hard card can be used to help to finish the edges and position the film. Additionally, the hard card can be used with a clean paper towel on the edges and corners to help remove excess water.



When the film is in position, re-wet the surface of the film and slowly squeegee it with steady, even pressure using the squeegee to remove any water that is left behind this will help to bond the film to the glass, double check the installation to be sure you have removed all excess water under the film.

As the final step, once again, wrap an absorbing paper towel around your hard card and press out the edges of the film removing water to avoid any lifting.

If any finger bubbles appear, re-squeege out any water or air, applying firm pressure with the squeegee. In this phase, it is possible to gently use a heat gun to help evaporate moisture and

increase initial tack to glass, being careful not to heat the glass too hot or melt the door panels.

After the application, convey to your customer to allow the film to cure for approximately 3 days. During this drying period, don't open the windows and don't clean the glass and film surface. This can vary by environment, cooler temperatures may take longer to dry.



Also as a final cleaning of the window before returning to the customer a non-ammonia-based window cleaner can be used.
Aerosol cleaners such as Sprayaway are recommended glass cleaners.
You should also convey this cleaning care to your customer.

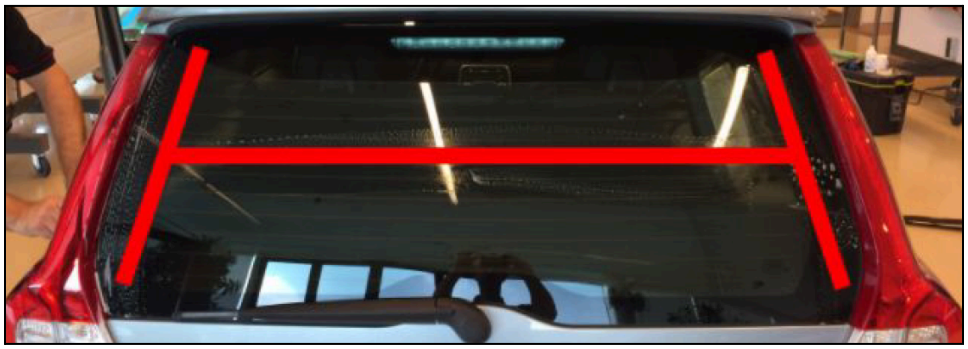
5.1.3 Installation techniques for film on side windows.

Links to side window Video demonstrations
TWO-STAGE METHOD **BOTTOM LOADING METHOD**

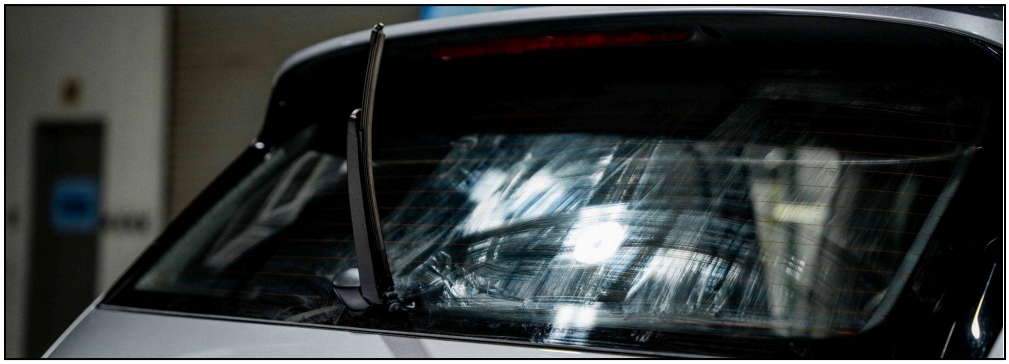
5.2 Rear Curved Windows

Prepare and clean the glass surface as indicated in Section 4.0. Please be careful not to use razor blades on windows with defroster lines to avoid any damage.

Using a dry shrink prep bag or a regular dryer sheet & water solution, wipe down the entire back glass.
Once it has dried, take a moist paper towel and wipe an "H" pattern horizontally across the middle and down each side about 6 inches wide to hold the film in place while shrinking.



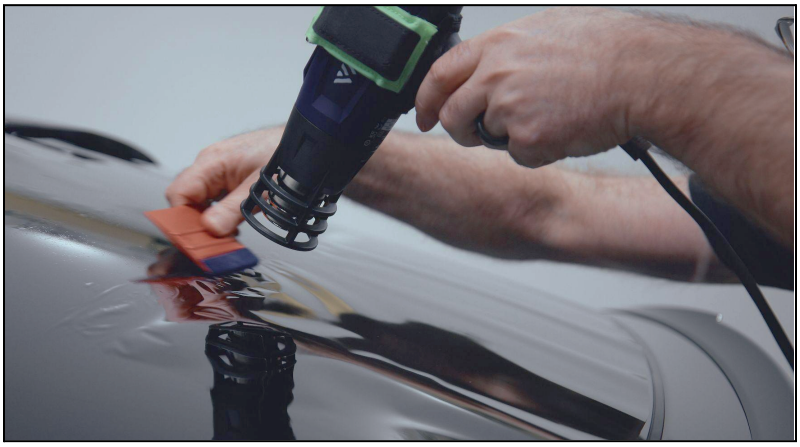
Position the film on the prepped exterior of the rear window and size it by trimming it larger, cutting close to the edge of the glass, the rest will be removed once the film has been shrunk. Also, be sure to position the film with the release liner facing up (this will be the duller side of the film). In addition, make sure that the film is positioned with the factory edges at the top and bottom of the window. This is the only direction, the film will shrink properly.



When the film is in position, shrink the film on the glass in quarters, bottom left and right, top left and right. Shrink first the lower half of the film one side at a time, gently forming the film and contouring the film to the glass with the heat gun and a hard card, or smoothing the film with a gloved hand is an acceptable alternative to using the hard card.

Next, shrink both sides of the upper half of the film with the same technique, taking care not to overheat the film.

Once the film is heat contoured, trim the excess film to the shape of the glass, trimming excess material to overlap the black border of the dot matrix. An alternative method to avoid cutting on the car window is to use a permanent marker to define the final edge of the film for installation on the window. Remove the film and cut it on a peelboard or glass table.



Next, prepare the inside of the rear window by wetting and cleaning it with the water & baby shampoo solution to allow the film to be positioned. When wetting the interior glass, make sure to protect the interior of the car from excessive water.



Remove the liner from the film to expose the adhesive and wet it with water & soap solution. During this procedure, working in a clean environment is very important to avoid any dust/dirt entrapment in the film adhesive.

Position the film on the inside of the rear window and align the film edges with the contours of the rear window. When the film is in position, first smooth it to the contour of the window by hand and then apply firm pressure using the squeegee to adhere the film to the rear window. It is recommended to squeegee film moving from the middle towards the edges working each half in short strokes from top to bottom.

As the final step, look for any entrapped water. Use a paper towel wrapped around the hard card and press any water trapped under it while paying special attention to the edges of the film to avoid any lifting and to remove water at the edges which can cause fingering. If fingers or bubbles appear, press out any water or air, by applying firm pressure with the hard card. Also, ensure the film is firmly applied to the dot matrix surrounding the window.



After the film is installed, allow the film to dry for approximately 3 days. During the drying period, do not use the defroster.

6.0 Cleaning, Maintenance, and Removal

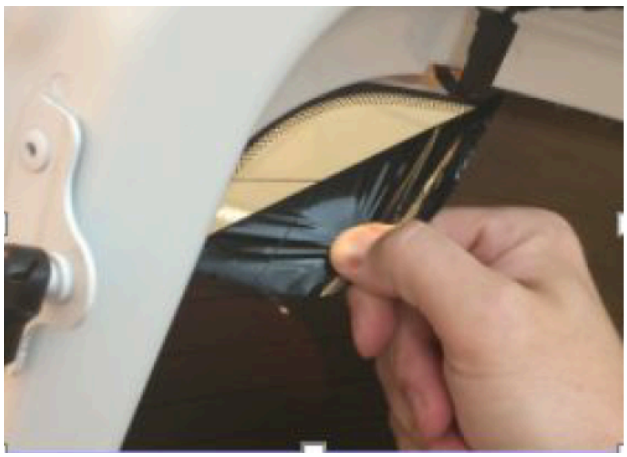
As mentioned in Section 5.0, it is important to allow the film to dry after application. The recommended drying time is approximately 3 days. During the drying period, don't open the windows, clean the glass and film surface, and don't use the rear defroster.

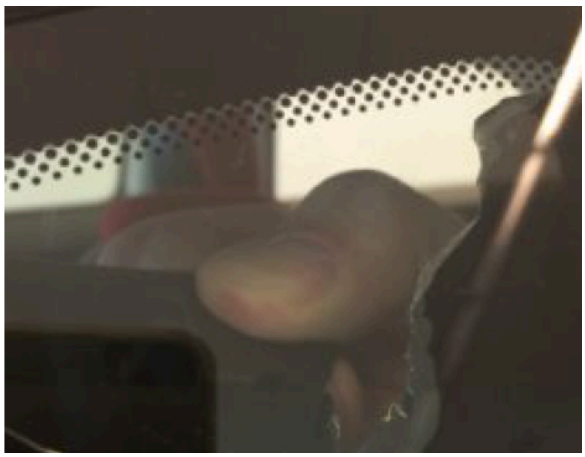
For regular window cleaning, don't use abrasive fluids and tools that can cause scratches on the surface, such as metal brushes or abrasive scrubbing sponges. Regular window cleaners are not expected to cause any damage to the film, although you should avoid ammonia-based cleaners. An aerosol cleaner such as Sprayaway Glass Cleaner is the most widely used and recommended product for cleaning tinted glass.

For precaution, it is recommended to always test the cleaner on an inconspicuous part of the material before use.

When removing the film, it is recommended to start at a corner of the window and remove the film with a slow steady pull back against itself. It is recommended to remove the film at an angle of 70 to 80° relative to the surface. To facilitate easier removal, remove the film when the glass is warm, as you pull you can spray some water behind the film to help loosen it, it can also be heated up using a heat gun or leaving the car in the sun to warm it up. Take care to ensure the film or glass is not overheated.

Take particular care when removing the film from the dot-matrix print and defroster lines and ensure that the film is completely removed from these parts. If any glue is left remove it with baby shampoo solution and a white scrubby pad, 000 Steel Wool, or SOS pads.





7.0 Disclaimer

This technical bulletin describes a technique. The information contained herein is believed to be reliable, but Avery Dennison makes no warranties, express or implied, including but not limited to any implied warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. To the extent allowed by law, Avery Dennison shall not be liable for any loss or damages, whether direct, indirect, special, incidental, or consequential, in any way related to the technique of making a graphic regardless of the legal theory asserted.

For more information regarding the warranty of particular Avery Dennison window film products, please refer to the warranty documentation.