Avery Dennison XTRM ProTM Film Series Installation Guide

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1.0 General Introduction

All window film professionals have their methods of installation, the result of experience, skill and familiarity with the films, techniques and tools that they use. The purpose of this document is not to educate in the art of installation, but to impart installation and maintenance advice concerning Avery Dennison Exterior Architectural Window Films. The following illustrated instructions are a generic installation guide.

2.0 Product Description

Avery Dennison's new XTRM Pro durable exterior product line, the products developed for vertical applications are 3-ply designs based on a new proprietary protection layer preventing metal fading, along with this new UV-durable surface coating and a weatherable exterior SR topcoat extending the product's longevity in harsh outdoor conditions.

3.0 Product Application

Avery Dennison exterior films are recommended for external use on vertical applications, sloped or horizontal architectural glass, for residential and commercial projects.

- Some applications do require pre-approval.
- See the Film-to-Glass Recommendation sheet for details.
- Air temperature during installation should be between 40°F-100°F



4.0 Installation Instructions

4.1 Recommended Tools

- Hand spray bottle or pressurized spray canister
- Heavy-duty squeegee
    - similar to the 6” Blue Max Channel squeegee with the green quick-release Unger handle
- Olfa knife with 58-degree stainless steel blades
- Straight-Edge
- Glass cleaning scraper
    - similar to the Red or Black triumph glass cleaning scraper with stainless-steel blades
- Lint-free paper towels



4.2 Glass Preparation

- Use a wetting solution based on water and Johnson's Baby Shampoo.
- For glass with caked on dirt and grime, use a new scraper blade to free the glass surface from dirt, dust or any other small particles.
- Use a wetting solution, non-abrasive cloth and soft squeegees for final clean of the glass.

4.3 Application Solution

The application solution should contain water with Johnson’s Baby Shampoo.

- Use 4cc (~4 drops) per liter of water for the slip solution.
- In hot environments it may be necessary to use more baby shampoo. Up to 10cc may be necessary if the water is evaporating too quickly.
- Add more slip solution for polyfilm on polycarbonate windows.
- Any slip agent used should not contain additives such as lanolin or silicone that may affect adhesive bond strength.

4.4 Installation of Films

4.4.1 Pressure Sensitive Adhesive

All Avery Dennison Exterior Window Films are manufactured with a Pressure Sensitive Adhesive (PS). PS-based films are often considered more suitable for exterior installation since it is a more aggressive and tacky adhesive. It also gives exceptional clarity when viewed on glass.
Avery Dennison recommends wetting the liner to lower static build-up when the liner is removed, thus reducing levels of airborne contamination that may be trapped under the applied film.
In addition, saturating the adhesive and the window with slip solution, make the film more positionable until it is tacked down with a heavy duty squeegee or hard card.
PS-based films, specific attention needs to be paid to**:**

- Thorough cleaning of edges.
- No saturation time before water removal with squeegee.
- Faster curing time.
- Do not clean the windows for 30 days.
- Keeping rolls in a moisture-free environment (leave silica gel inbox, and rolls wrapped in original packing)

4.4.2 Exterior film installation

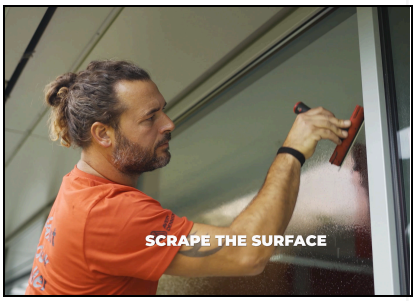
The instructions below are general instructions for Installing Pressure Sensitive (PS) adhesive-based Exterior Solar Control Films

1. Measure the windows from different positions to ensure the best accuracy.





2. It is very important to clean properly, as any dirt left will show under the film. Wet the glass with a mist of soapy water.
Use the Triumph Scraper or scrubby pad on a wet glass surface to remove any stuck-on particles.
Re-spray and squeegee after scraping the glass using the window squeegee.
Using a lint-free paper towel to wipe around the edges to remove any remaining dirty water and residue.
Look out for dirt below the rubber, potential rubber removal, and rinsing, especially from the top, being outside.





3. Re-wet the window and wipe the edges with a clean paper towel then squeegee the remaining water off the glass. Look for any dirt or debris left behind especially around the edges.





4. Cut the film with the Film Handler leaving a 1/16” to ⅛” gap around the edges to allow the Silicone Sealant to seal the film to the glass, in addition to the framing. Roll the film up with the liner rolled inside. If a film handler is not available, using an Edge Tool is recommended to accurately cut the edges with a 1/16” to ⅛” gap.

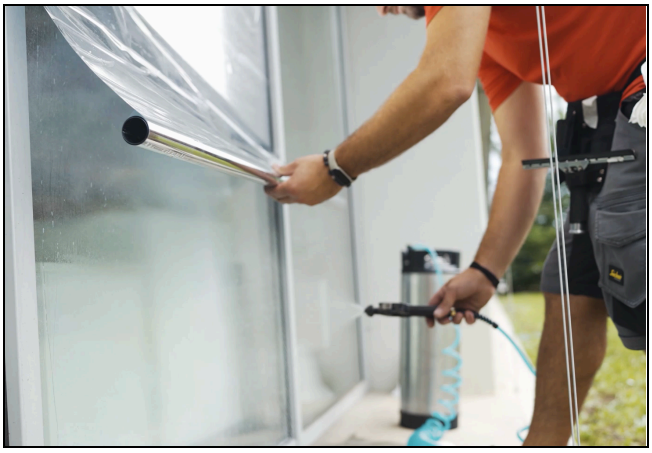




5. Thoroughly wet the film on both sides and re-wet the glass surface.
Start to separate the backing liner from the film and spray the exposed adhesive with plenty of water.
Do not touch the adhesive layer with dry fingers.
Start to unroll the wet adhesive side of the film onto the glass.

For efficient and speedy one-person installation, It is recommended using the “California Roll / Reverse Roll” method illustrated in Section 4.4.4





6. While rolling the film down the window remove the release liner. Be sure to keep the glass and the film area wet so the film will be movable to ensure proper alignment.



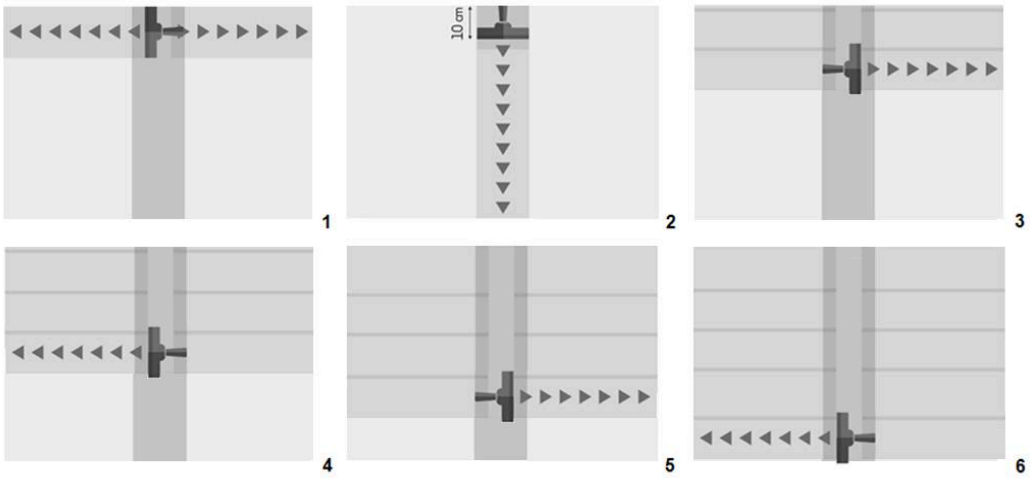


7. Using a 6” heavy-duty safety film squeegee, applying firm pressure, similar to the pressure needed with 12 mil security film. Work out the water side to side and from top to bottom. Be sure to overlap each stroke by 50% for best water removal.





8. Work out the water side to side and from top to bottom Following the guide below for the correct water removal sequence.



9. If a film handler is not used it will be necessary to trim off the excess film with a Olfa or red dot knife and an edge tool in order to maintain an ⅛” gap for edge sealing.





10. Once the film is trimmed, re-wet the film and squeegee it more time, and hard card the edges with a hard card wrapped in a paper towel to get all the water out and prevent the film edge from lifting and to be sure that all the water out has been removed.

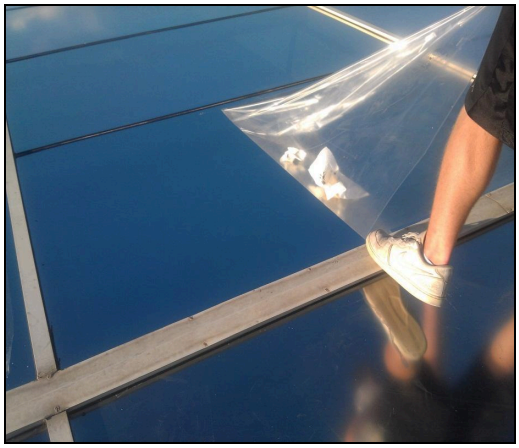




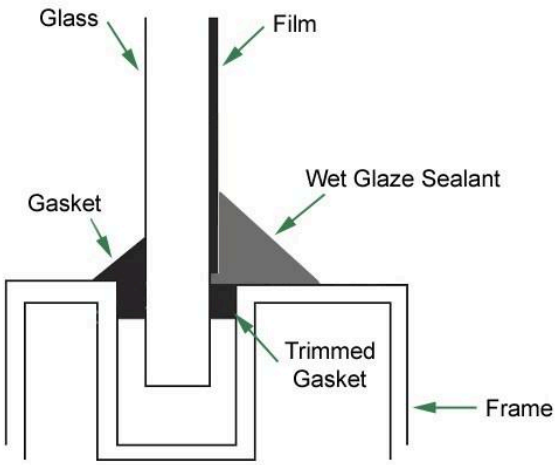
4.4.3 Exterior Edge Sealing

Allow film to dry for 24 hours, and no longer than 72 hours, to complete with edge sealing, for exterior XTRM films all 4 sides need to be sealed.
*Do not forget to remove the Protective Cap sheet on the film before sealing the film.
All XTRM Pro window film applications require a neutral silicone edge sealant for external use (such as Dow Corning 795 or 885, GE Max 5000, or an equivalent neutral silicone sealing agent for external application)
**This is only applicable to the Skylite XTRM Pro series.*









4.4.4 California Roll

The “California Roll” / “Reverse Roll” method is an installation method of removing the liner, which protects the adhesive of the Avery Dennison architectural films, which can be useful when a second person isn’t available to assist with the installation. This method uses the weight of the rolled-up piece of film and gravity (when using a film with a water-activated adhesive WAA) or to manually roll the film with a pressure-sensitive adhesive (PS) and single-handedly remove the protective liner from the film.



For this liner removal method, it is important to understand the Avery Dennison Architect Method of film liner removal. Once the film is pulled from the roll to the width and length desired, the roll of film must be rolled back up with the liner facing in.





When it is time to install the rolled-up film, spray the entire surface of the glass with the slip solution, and also spray the top of the film with the slip solution. Peel the release liner back from the adhesive side about 10” to expose the adhesive, wet the film that is exposed and press it to the wet top surface of the roll of film; it will stick to the water on the hardcoat side of the film.



Firmly hold the top edge of the film roll at the top of the window to be tinted and begin to unroll the film. Place the unrolled sheet of film - now with the adhesive exposed - onto the wet surface of the glass and the release liner will begin to roll off onto the hard coat side of the film, anchor the top of the film at this point, it can be manually unrolled the rest of the way to the bottom of the glass surface, pull the remaining liner, still protecting the adhesive, off while the exposed adhesive is now resting against the wet glass. Refer back to section **4.4.2 Exterior film installation #6** to complete installation

4.4.5 Preventing Scratching

The scratch resistant coating, while quite robust, is still a coating on a plastic sheet, and could be damaged during the installation without proper tools and care. It is not a good idea to squeegee while the film is dry; this could damage the scratch resistant coating.

To prevent scratching during installation, be sure to use a clean squeegee that has an undamaged edge with a good amount of slip solution to lubricate the film, the squeegees, and hard cards.

To complete the final press out it is best practice to wrap the hard card with a good quality paper towel to press out any areas as well as the edges.

As a final precaution it is possible to utilize the release liner that was removed from the film prior to installation as a protective barrier between the squeegee and the surface of the film when squeegeeing.



4.4.6 After Installing

BE PATIENT while the new film dries. Although most Avery Dennison Architectural Films dry within a few days, drying time can be increased due to ambient temperature, film thickness, and the presence of sunlight. Do not clean windows for 30 days after installation to allow mounting adhesives to adhere properly. Do not try to “pop” bubbles and release retained water as this could void any warranty.

5.0 Care and Maintenance

5.1 General information and Drying Period

Within this time, the adhesive will complete its polymeric bonding process, and the moisture will disappear, leaving the windows clear.

Advise customers not to try to remove the bubbles by popping or pressing them; depending on the film type and local weather conditions; the bubbles will disappear by themselves within weeks. The warmer the weather, the shorter the drying period. Fogging and optical distortions may be present, but they too will disappear during the drying process.

5.2 Cleaning instructions

Although all Avery Dennison Architectural films have excellent scratch resistance, it is preferable not to use abrasive products. Outdoor films should be cleaned three times a year in order to maintain the appearance and clarity of the film. This is particularly important on all sloped or horizontal installations since the accumulation of dirt and precipitation can cause problems.

- The recommended cleaning solution is water with a few drops of Johnson's Baby Shampoo to clean windows.
- Do not use an ammonia solution.
- Wipe with a synthetic sponge, very soft cloth, or chamois leather.
- Rinse with clean water, and wipe off with a squeegee. Final traces of water can be removed with absorbent paper.
- Remember: Always tell clients to inform window cleaners that film is installed, and to make sure they follow the above instructions.
- The use of a steam cleaner is not recommended.
- Films should be cleaned with a liquid, non-abrasive cleaner that contains neither solvents nor alcohol and has a pH value between 5 to 9 (neither strongly acidic nor strongly alkaline).
- Installations in areas with heavy atmospheric pollution (such as in dense industrial zones) may require more frequent cleaning.

Warning: do not use cleaning solutions that contain ketones such as MEK or acetone. Avoid the use of brushes and squeegees used in standard window washing.



5.3 Removal of window film

- Slowly peel each section individually, from top to bottom,
    - For thicker films such as security or anti graffiti film it is a good practice to carefully score vertical strips 6 in (15 cm) apart on the entire film surface, without touching the glass. This makes removal easier.
- Use a wide scraper or razor blade and plenty of soapy water to scrape any remaining adhesive from the window.
- Film removal will be easier and more effective if the surrounding air temperature is between 59° and 86°F.
- In order to remove the film, delicately score the film (without touching the glass!) into strips of 6 inches width with an OLFA knife (or equivalent) and carefully start removal of the film at the edge using a window film scraper.
- Remove the film strips from the surface by peeling slowly and smoothly at a 90-degree angle continuously.
- Some adhesive residue may remain on the glass after removing the film and can be removed by gently wiping the adhesive traces (not the entire surface) with a non-abrasive cloth or pad dipped in IPA (isopropyl alcohol) or denatured alcohol (ethanol).