

5 - Cleaning:

Cleaning is the most important part of wrapping a vehicle. It doesn't matter how good the quality of the installation is if an edge or recessed area was improperly cleaned. The goal should be to clean the vehicle as thoroughly as possible in order for the film to bond properly to the application surface. Anything short of this will lead to failures, costing you more money and time.

The best way to begin the cleaning process is to have the client take the vehicle to the carwash the day before the install. The wash cycle should be basic – no wax or other treatments. Do not brush silicon onto the wheels. Because the silicon will spray off the wheels while the vehicle is in motion, resulting in the silicon ending up on the inside of wheel wells and even on the main body area. This can easily be overlooked by the installer and can compromise the adhesive.

It's very important to not take the vehicle to a car wash on the day of the install. Taking it prior to the install will give the water that gets under the door handles and lights time to dry properly.

Cleaning: The following 2-step process is the most effective method for cleaning a vehicle for a digital full print wrap.

- * Avery Dennison recommends using heavy-duty paper towels or microfiber towels for the cleaning process. Heavy-duty paper towels absorb more dirt and oil than standard paper towels and are more durable. For microfiber towels, be sure that if they are used, there are no particles stuck in the fibers as these can scratch the paint.

General Cleaning:

Step 1 – Clean the application surface with a general-purpose cleaner. Avoid using any cleaner that will leave a soapy residue or contains an oil-based product. Dirt can build up on the paper towel quickly, so be sure to rotate or replace the paper towel often. Baby shampoo and water is a good combination to use for cleaning.

Step 2 – The second step of the cleaning process involves addressing any oil residue on the application surface. The best way to remove oil residue is to use a degreaser. Avoid using a degreaser that will leave a haze or compromise the paint. When using a degreaser, be sure to wear heavy-duty rubber gloves and work in a well-ventilated area. Be extra careful and avoid inhaling the mist after spraying. Avery Dennison recommends 70% isopropyl alcohol as a degreaser.

