

Unsticking a Panel From Itself – A panel may fold upon itself during the installation process. It's very important to address this immediately. The longer the panel sticks together the harder it will be to separate. Separate the film in small increments. Avoid pulling or stretching the film as much as possible. Once the film has been separated go over the film with light heat. This will trigger the memory effect which makes any wrinkles or overstretching caused by this process disappear.

Picking A Panel off the Application Surface – A panel may need to be picked back up the application surface during the install in order to readjust or fix a problem area. If the backing paper is still on the panel, gently rock the film back and forth while holding either side. If backing paper has been removed or the film is in a difficult to reach area, it's best to insert a hand under the adhesive side and pull upwards. Make sure that the hand is clean and that the fingers are spread wide and flat. Avoid gripping the fingers for they can overstretch the film making it difficult to re-apply.

Popping Air Bubbles – Air bubbles are the result of the adhesive bonding to the application surface before all of the air can escape during the squeegeeing process. The air in the bubbles needs to be released in order to keep the film from failing and to help ensure professional looking install. Using a sharp blade or air release tool, poke a tiny hole at the edge of the air bubble. If done properly, the surface of the air bubble will visibly relax. This is a good indication that the air can now properly escape. Starting at the opposite end of the hole, gently push the air out of the bubble. Pushing too quickly can wrinkle the film so be sure to work methodically.

Smoothing out Wrinkles – Wrinkles refer to a state when the film is tightly bunched together or has folded upon itself. Once the film wrinkles, it's important to pick the panel back up, add light heat to trigger the memory effect then reapply the film once it's cooled. Waiting until the end of the install to deal with wrinkles is too late and will result in a low-quality install.

Dull Scratches – During the squeegee process, dull or light scratches may occur on the surface of the film. If the film has a lamination layer, then these scratches can be self-healed by adding heat. For gloss and pearlescent films a propane torch can be used. If the film is matte or satin, then a heat gun should be used as the propane torch will cause these types of lamination to gloss.

Saving Extra Film – Get in the habit of cutting away the excess film with the backing paper still on before installing the film. For digital full print wraps, these extra pieces are good to have in case the vehicle gets in a minor accident and a small section of the film needs to be repaired. It is important to note that it is very difficult for a second printing of the graphics to get the exact match in terms of color with the original. Having these extra pieces can save the client from