



## Paint Protection Film Application Instructions



### Bumper Kit

#### **Tools Required:**

- Black Rubber Squeegee with smooth edges (rough edges may scratch film)
- Dishwashing Liquid (Dawn, Joy etc.)
- Isopropyl Alcohol (70% preferred)
- 2 Spray Bottles
- Lint free towels
- Nylon Scrub Pad
- Bug, tar and wax remover
- Steamer (Optional for more difficult installations)

#### **Preparation:**

Installation should always take place in a warm (60-90 degrees F), dry location. The area must be enclosed as sunlight and wind will complicate installation.

The vehicle's surface **must be thoroughly cleaned** and rinsed with running water. All bugs, road tar, dirt and other contaminants must be removed before the vehicle can be dried and ready for installation. A nylon scrub pad may be used to help remove contaminants but care must be taken not to damage the vehicle finish.



Examine the kit to be applied on a clean, flat surface. Determine which pieces will be installed first and where they should be installed on the vehicle. The "Face Sheet" printout supplied with each kit should help in determining proper placement.

#### **Prepare 2 application solutions:**

1 Spray bottle (slip solution) – fill with water and add 2-4 drops of dishwashing liquid.

1 Spray bottle (alcohol solution) – fill with 8 oz. of 70% Isopropyl alcohol and 24 oz. water.

#### **Bumper Installation:**

Wet your hands with the slip solution and keep them wet whenever you are handling the film. As you slowly remove the film from the liner, **spray the sticky side with the slip application solution**, this will stop the film from folding and sticking to itself before you lay it on the vehicle. Be very careful not to drop the pattern, or let it come into contact with any contaminated surfaces. Once the adhesive is contaminated with dirt it can not be cleaned!





Spray a section of the vehicle surface liberally with **the gliding application solution** before you apply each pattern piece. Re-spray the sticky side of the film and lay the piece onto the vehicle, getting as close to the final position as possible. If you have used adequate solution, large pieces will be able to be repositioned by placing hands on the film and gliding it into the correct position. If you need to lift the film off of the surface to remove air bubbles, just re-spray the film before laying it back down. Most bumpers can be aligned in the center of the bumper

using features in the bumper as an aid. Most bumpers are slightly short to encourage stretching them into place for elimination of fingers at corners, etc.

Once the piece is on the vehicle and aligned properly, gently lift the piece at the middle and flush the slip solution away with the alcohol solution. Tack the piece vertically in the middle with your squeegee. You are now finished with the slip solution.



With the middle tacked down, lift up a section of the film 180 degrees from the vehicle and spray it liberally (from the top down) with the **alcohol solution**. This will remove the soap from underneath the film. **Note: When working on bumpers it is recommended to only apply the alcohol solution to the portion of the bumper that is to be squeegeed out next. Leaving soap and water under other areas will allow the installer to stretch these areas without damaging the adhesive.** Place the pattern back down on the vehicle and stretch until the pattern lines up with the next feature in the bumper (headlight washer, fog light cut-out). Most bumpers should be done in sections working out from the middle. Stretch one section into place and squeegee and then move to the next section. If re-alignment is necessary, the film can be pulled back and re-wet with the alcohol solution for repositioning and then a final squeegee.





**Work from the middle of the piece outward, using firm, overlapping strokes.** Do not push too hard. You do not want to stretch or scratch the film's surface.

If you see an air bubble, simply lift the film up, continuing to keep it wet on both sides (keep your hands wet with solution also), spray affected area with **alcohol solution** and lay back down. Use the squeegee to push out the bubble as you re-squeegee the film.

Make sure to squeegee out all of the moisture and soap! If you do not, **a haze will slowly appear under the film**, making the car look 'foggy'. Do not panic!! **This moisture will dry out over a 12-24 hour period**; just be sure to make the customer aware of this before viewing the vehicle. Variables such as outside air temperature and degree of sunlight will impact the speed that this moisture evaporates. Do not try to remove the film after it has set for a period greater than 10 minutes, you may leave fingerprints on the film or cause a line at the point where you stop pulling the material back from the surface.

#### **Difficult areas:**

Some areas of bumpers are more difficult due to insets or bumper curvature. If a bumper has one of these difficult areas follow these easy steps to help make the piece lay easier. First, flush the area under the film completely with the alcohol solution. Second, apply steam to the area for 5 or 10 seconds to warm up the material and the bumper surface. The material should now be easier to form to the shape of the bumper and should hold better once squeegeed. Extra care must be taken not to over stretch the film during steaming as the material becomes very pliable after steaming. **Note: Heat guns or hair dryers can be used but great care must be taken not to damage the material or the vehicle finish. These devices also tend to dry out surfaces so re-wetting may be required.**



#### **TIPS & HINTS:**

- Be prepared, look over the pattern and make sure you know where each piece goes. The area must be clean before you begin! Wind and dirt are your enemies.
- Go slow until you are more experienced. Just remember to keep the film wet with the slip solution and you can reposition the film as much as you like.
- If some corners are hard to make stick, position the piece and move onto another area. Come back to the corner after a few minutes and you will find it has dried out enough to tack to the vehicle.
- Make sure you spray the tacky side of the film as you remove it from the white liner. If you do not, it will stick to itself, causing delays and headaches!
- You can NOT use too much solution. Don't be afraid to keep spraying. If you spray too much, it will dry out in a couple of minutes.
- Use the alcohol solution to remove ALL of the soap after repositioning. You must try and remove as much soap as possible before the film sets.