



HIGH TOUCH

ANTIVIRAL SURFACE PROTECTION

Installation & Maintenance Guide

High Touch™ Antiviral & Antimicrobial Films

INSTALLATION GUIDE & WARRANTY

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- High Touch™ films are suitable for installation on a wide variety of surfaces such as bench tops, monitor displays, door handles and lift buttons. Please review our sales material which outlines the suitability of each of the products in our range.
- High Touch™ films adhere particularly well on steel, aluminum, glass, melamine, and PVC.
- High Touch™ films have less adhesion on these substrates: low energy surfaces (polypropylene and polyethylene: containers, bags, bottles, boxes, etc.) grained or textured surfaces, acrylic paints.
- Avoid applying the film on unpainted or uncoated natural surfaces.
- For other substrates: Conduct preliminary substrate film adhesion test by applying a sample of film and evaluating how well it adheres or does not adhere.
- High Touch™ films achieve optimum adhesion after 24 hours of contact.

2. CONDITIONS

The release liner allows installers to benefit from a bubble and crease free installation while saving valuable installation time. This structured adhesion and release makes transfer and application easy ensuring optimum installations. To achieve the maximum output, correct storage precautions, a controlled working environment needs to be created, and proper working temperatures need to be maintained.

2.1 Film Storage

- Avoid direct exposure of the films to high temperatures (direct sunlight, heaters, etc.)
- Film should be kept vertically or horizontally hung on racks.

2.2 Environment

It is recommended that film be applied indoors (where possible), in a clean, well-lit and dust free environment. Wetting or misting the surrounding areas (NOT the working surface) will help lower the amount of dust and contaminants from collecting on the working surface or the film adhesive.

2.3 Temperature

Temperature is a critical component to how well the film adheres to the substrate and its repositionability.

The recommended minimum working temperatures is 10°C (50°F).

- If the substrate surface temperature is hot, the adhesive will be more aggressive and may begin to activate upon contact. Difficulties with the repositioning of the film may occur.
- If the substrate surface is cold the film will become brittle and the conformability of the film will be affected.

3. CLEANING & PREPARATION

The most critical part of installing films is in the cleaning and preparation. High Touch™ films can be applied to a wide variety of substrates under the condition that the target surface is clean, dry, smooth, non-porous and without any traces of oil, wax, silicone, grease or other contaminating agents. Always assume the substrate is contaminated and requires cleaning. Some residues or contaminants may not be visible and will affect the adhesion of the film and leave bumps and air bubbles in the film.

Note: Do not forget to conduct a preliminary adhesion test in a small area to check that the substrate is compatible.



3.1 Cleaning Products & Tooling

- Grease & Wax Remover
- Isopropyl Alcohol
- Lint free towel & Microfiber towel
- Squeegee (various sizes)
- Tack cloth

3.2 Surface Preparation Procedure

The ultimate goal is to get the surface as clean and containment free as possible. Clean surfaces will allow the film optimum adhesion, durability, and longevity.

Steps:

- 1.** Wash, clean and rinse the surface with soap and water to remove organic contaminants (bug, sap, dirt, etc.) from surface. Do not use cleaners that contain waxes. A Wax residue will affect how well the film's adhesion.
- 2.** Thoroughly dry the surface with microfiber and/or lint-free towels. It is critical to clean and dry ridges, recesses, edges, seams, anywhere and everywhere dirt can be trapped. If the surface is not cleaned properly, anchor points and corners where the film tuck or hold the film to the surface may peel or fail. A Squeegee wrapped in a lint-free towel of microfiber will allow access of hard to reach areas (behind trim, molding, seams, etc.) to be cleaned and dried.
- 3.** Once the surface is clean and dry, Petrochemicals (grease, wax, tar, oil, gas residue, etc.) now need to be cleaned from the surface areas. Any surface left with these types of contaminants will greatly affect the film adhesion and may leave contaminant bump/bubbles on the uncleaned areas. Clean the surface areas with Isopropyl Alcohol (80% denatured alcohol: 20% water) and wipe dry before the isopropyl alcohol has had time to evaporate.
- 4.** Make sure the substrate is completely dry before applying the film. Pay practical attention behind and edge's. If not completely dry, any moisture trapped beneath the film could lead to failure.
- 5.** Before removing the film's release liner and applying the film to a surface, we recommend wiping the working surface area down once more using a tack cloth. Cleaning once more with a tack cloth removes the dust or contaminants may have re-accumulated on the working surface.

Note: Newly painted surfaces or surfaces must be dried and hard for 7 to 10 days. Air dried paints need to be dried for a minimum of 1 month before applying the film.

4. INSTALLATION

- The application of the film to large surface areas is best performed by two people and overall wrapping times can be drastically reduced.
- High Touch™ films must be dry applied. However, the installer may use a wetting solution on top of the film layer to provide some slip resistance for the squeegee.
- The recommended minimum working temperatures is 10°C (50°F).



4.2 Installation placement steps

1. Position the film on the substrate surface to hold it in place without stretching it.
2. If working on a large area, use masking tape, make a hinge on a flat area.
3. Slowly peel off a section of the release liner at the hinge point at an angle of about 30° -40° to lower the chance of attracting dust.
4. Keeping the material taut by holding both the top corners, start applying the film using the edge of a squeegee covered in felt at a 45° angle. Using overlapping strokes (ignore recesses for the moment) from the center towards the edges. The unique adhesive will allow air bubbles to be dispersed easily. If any large bubbles become trapped or a crease appears then lift the film away from the surface then re-squeegee. When applying, examine the film and surface areas to make the most efficient way for the air to route out from underneath the film to the edges
5. Remove the hinge (masking tape) and continue removing the release liner and applying overlapping squeegee strokes. It is essential that the whole surface area is thoroughly squeegeed during application. If material is left without being finished at some point during the whole installation process, glue lines or stress marks may become noticeable upon completion.
6. When recesses and step changes are encountered, the film should be laid or fed into and around these sections applying a little tension as possible.

4.3 Surface Types & Heating

For compound curves and complex multi curves, special techniques must be used

1. Concave Surfaces – Recesses:

- Remove all of the release liner
- Stretch the film over the substrate so that the film touches the peaks of the surface only.
- Apply the film with a felt covered squeegee.
- If necessary, lift up the film and re-stretch the film. Then reapply.
- With a finger press into the hollow area to apply the film's adhesive.

2. Convex Surfaces – Compound Curves:

- Remove the release liner
- Stretch the film so as to completely wrap the convex surface.
- Apply the film over the entire surface area with the help of a felt covered squeegee, with overlapping strokes over the entire convex area to eliminate any tension.

3. Riveted Surfaces:

- When you encounter a rivet, the film will become stretched
- With a squeegee go all around the rivet and poke the rivet 1-2 times with a needle/air bubble tool (do not use a utility knife) to help release any trapped air.

4.4 Finishing

Finishing is a critical component and improper finishing will lead to premature failures in the edges and surface of the film.

1. Edges:

The film should not be cut flush with surface edges. Instead, the film should be wrapped around the edges by about 6mm (¼") to minimize the exposed edges of the film. Application to the materials such as ABS, PP or rubber is not recommended.



1. Overlaps:

If overlaps of widths become necessary, High Touch™ recommends an overlap seam of ¼"

1. Vertical Overlap: The film is applied starting at the rear towards the front of the surface. Overlaps will be in the direction of the flow movement.
2. Horizontal Overlap: Top film panel overlapping the lower film panel.

5. AFTERCARE & CLEANING

Once the surface is wrapped, it will need to be kept in a heated environment (room temperature) for 24 hours after application. Any physical aggression (cleaning, abrasion, etc.) must be avoided by all means during that time.

5.1 The Do's

- Washing by hand with a blend of mild wash detergent and water is the recommended cleaning option.
- Water temperatures should be between 20°C (67°F) to 25°C (77°F).
- Film is similar to paint in that exposing it to direct sunlight and UV rays for elongated periods of time may lead to fading or coloring.
- Always carry out a test on a small area before you clean the total surface area of a surface wrap.

5.2 The Don'ts

- Do not wash the surface for 1 day to allow the film adhesion to fully cure.
- Do not clean the film with solvent-based cleaners or corrosive detergents.
- Do not apply carnauba-based waxes.
- Do not use anything other than a cotton or microfiber cloth to clean the film.
- Do not use paper towel to clean the film.
- Do not allow fuels to stay in contact with the vinyl for extended periods of time. Clean all spills as soon as possible.

5.3 Pressure Washing

- Exercise extreme care when using a pressure washer. No more than medium to light pressure should be applied while keeping the spray nozzle a minimum of 50cm (20 inches) away from the surface.
- Use a spray nozzle with a 40° wide angle spray pattern. Avoid spraying at extreme angles.
- Repeated pressure washing can cause the film to lift around the edges and peel away from the surface, especially if the spray is at a sharp angle to the film.
- Over time, repeated pressure washing can degrade the face of the film, causing the film to lose its luster, fade, crack and even chip away.

5.4 Washing & Cleaning Procedure

Supplies:

- Bucket
- Mild detergent or 70% ethanol cleaning solution
- Soft cotton or microfiber cloth
- Dry microfiber cloths



Hand washing steps:

1. Mix water with a mild detergent or cleaning solution into a clean and containment free bucket.
2. Soak cotton or microfiber cloth with soap and water mixture. Gently clean the surface in a wiping motion.
3. Use a microfiber cloth to dry the film.

6. REMOVAL

- High Touch™ film films are engineered with a high-quality adhesive. For this reason, the surface should be placed in a warm environment at or above 20°C to (68°F) for at least 2-3 hours before attempting removal.
 - Heat the film to a temperature of 60°C (140°F) using a heat gun. A commercially available superheated steam device is also a good option.
 - Starting at an edge, gently peel approximately 12 inches of the film away from the edge of the surface and make a cut away from the surface.
 - The film should be peeled at an angle of 70° to 80° relative to the substrate. The method of removing the film at an angle will reduce the chance of paint coming off the surface.
 - Work gradually down the surface working in 12 inch sections.
 - Continue heating and carefully peel the film so as to avoid the risk of breaking up the film and of leaving any adhesive of the surface.
- If any adhesive is remaining on the substrate, use a piece of cloth coated in adhesive remover and gently rub the surface until all the adhesive traces have been removed. High Touch™ always advises that a trial patch is tested when using adhesive removers. High Touch™ suppliers cannot be held responsible for inappropriate removal methods or for poor paint/lacquer adhesion to the surface's bodywork.

7. WARRANTY

Trained experts are responsible for the quality of the application, while the responsibility for compliance with the maintenance and usage lies with the owner of the surface. The information provided in the Technical Data & Performance, High Touch™'s informative guidelines, and website is based exclusively on our current knowledge and experience. It constitutes neither a warranty of certain properties nor a quality or durability guarantee with regard to our High Touch™ films. High Touch™ is not responsible for cost incurred for the removal of our films. High Touch™ does not warrant removability from the following substrates:

- Surfaces with poor paint-to-substrate adhesion
- Wallboard (painted or unpainted)
- Pre-existing graphics that must remain intact; damage to existing graphic when the film is removed
- Improperly cured paint
- Oxidized or chalked substrates
- Stainless steel.

High Touch™ makes no warranty for:

- Paint/clear coat staining: High Touch™ does not warrant surface paint staining that may be visible after removing material which has cracked or discolored.
- Ease or speed of removal of any graphic
- Removal from paint that is improperly cured
- Removal from aged paint or metals, surface oxidation or chalking; user must test, approve and accept liability for such applications



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high-touch.com.au | info@high-touch.com.au | sales@high-touch.com.au

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