

APPLICATION SEQUENCES

Applying a Small Graphic

A graphic is considered small if:

- It has positionable adhesive and is less than 9 square feet (0.8 m²).
- It has pressure-sensitive adhesive and is less than 4 square feet (0.4 m²).

1. Remove the entire liner.
2. Use your thumb to gently tack the top edge of the graphic in place. See Figure 2.
3. Use firm pressure on the plastic applicator and overlapping strokes. If possible, start in the center of the graphic. Always squeegee the shortest distance to the edge of the graphic. Hold the remaining film away from the surface. See Figure 3.

Note: Pull the squeegee, as shown in Figure 3, rather than pushing it. Pushing can stretch the graphic.

4. Pull the film away where you tacked it with your thumb and then squeegee that area; this prevents wrinkles. See Figure 4.
5. To complete the application, go to **Finishing**, on page 9.

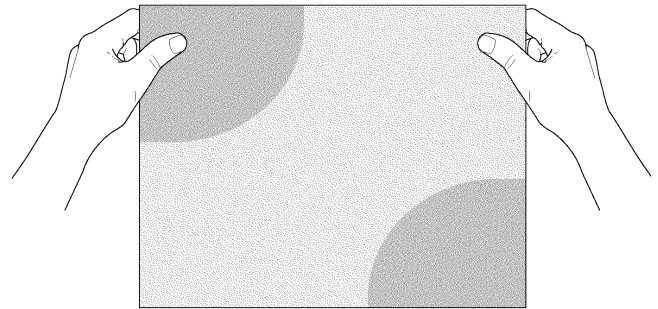
Applying a Large Graphic

A graphic is considered large if:

- It has positionable adhesive and is larger than 9 square feet (0.8 m²).
- It has pressure-sensitive adhesive and is larger than 4 square feet (0.4 m²).

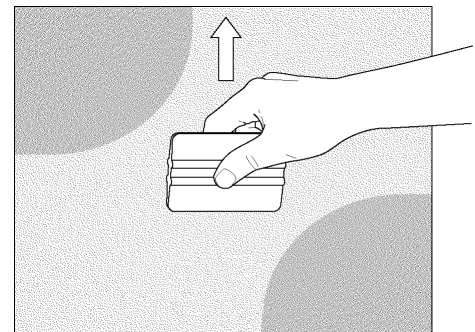
Top Hinge Method

1. Position the graphic, using strips of Scotch™ Masking Tape to hold the graphic to the substrate. Then, apply a strip of masking tape 2 to 3 inch (5.1 to 7.5 cm) wide, horizontally across the top of the graphic. See Figure 5.



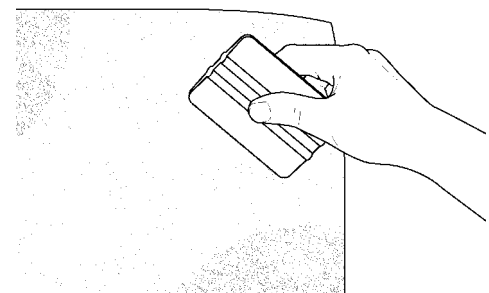
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Figure 2. Tack One Edge of the Graphic



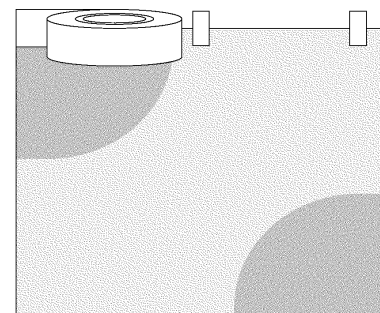
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Figure 3. Squeegee Across the Shortest Distance



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Figure 4. Squeegee the Area That Was Previously Only Tacked



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Figure 5. Make a Top Hinge

2. Raise the graphic up over the top of the hinge and peel the liner back a few inches. See Figure 6.

Note: The entire liner may be removed at this time, if desired. However, for very large graphics, especially those with a pressure-sensitive adhesive, leaving the liner in place just prior to squeegeeing makes the graphic more controllable, keeps the adhesive clean, and reduces the possibility of stretching the film.

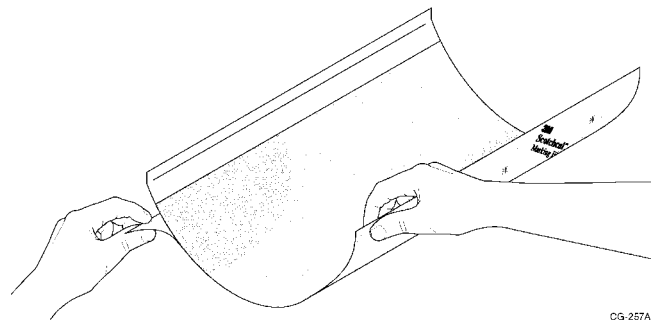


Figure 6. Lift the Graphic and Peel Back the Liner

3. Begin squeegeeing at the top center. Squeegee the graphic beginning at the center of the tape hinge and working outward from the hinge to the closest edge. Use firm pressure on the plastic applicator and overlapping strokes. See Figure 7.

4. Hold the graphic away from the surface and gradually remove the liner while squeegeeing down to the end.

Note: Pull the squeegee, as shown in Figure 7, rather than pushing it. Pushing can stretch the graphic.

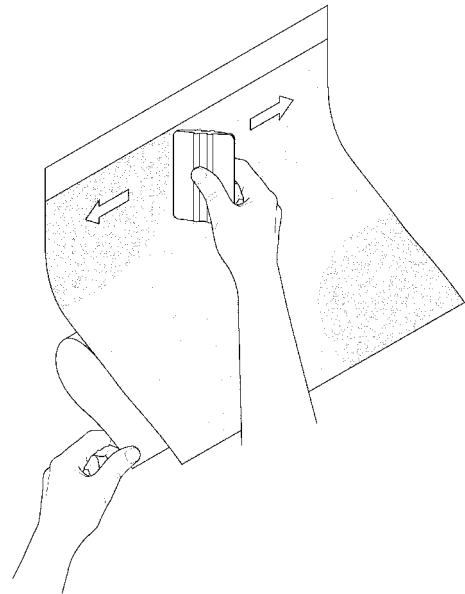


Figure 7. Squeegee a Top Hinged Graphic

5. Remove the tape hinge. Squeegee the top edge.
6. To complete the application, go to **Finishing**, on page 9.

Center Hinge Method

1. A center hinge can be either vertical or horizontal, whichever is the shortest distance.
2. Position the graphic and hold it in place with 1 or 2 inch (2.5 to 5 cm) wide strips of masking tape.
3. Apply two layers of masking tape, 1 or 2 inch (2.5 to 5 cm) wide, through the center of the graphic to make a hinge. The hinge should be perpendicular (at right angles) to the longest distance. See Figure 8.

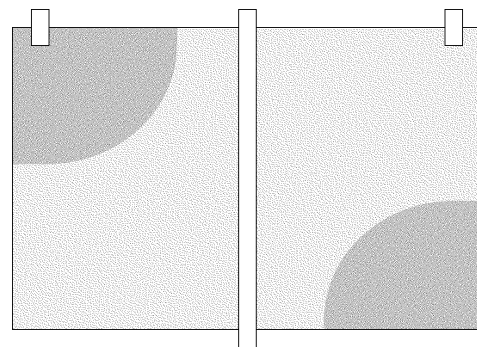
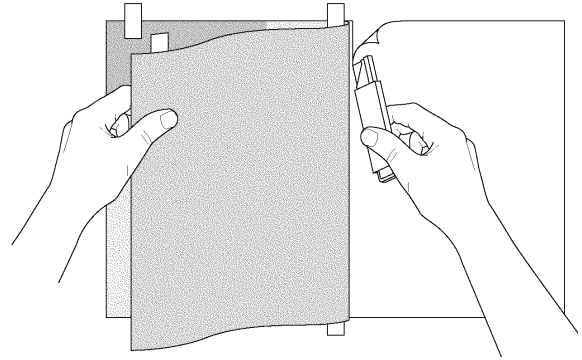


Figure 8. Make a Center Hinge

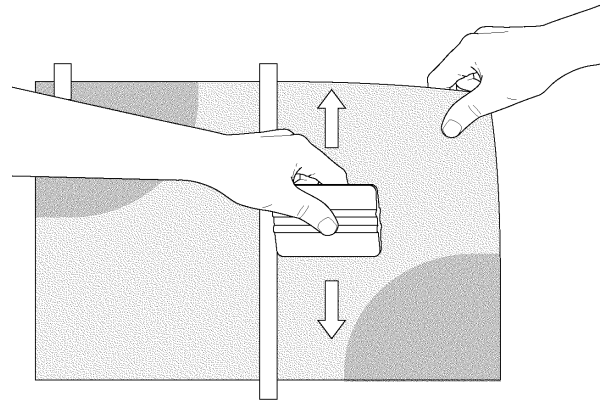
4. Fold half of the graphic back over the hinge. Peel off the liner all the way to the tape hinge. Then cut just the liner along the hinge. Discard the liner. See Figure 9.
5. Fold the graphic back onto the substrate.



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Figure 9. Remove Liner on a Center Hinged Graphic

6. Hold the graphic away from the surface with one hand. Allow the adhesive to touch the substrate as pressure is applied during squeegeeing. Squeegee the graphic beginning at the center of the tape hinge and working outward to the closest edge. See Figure 10. Use firm pressure on the plastic applicator and overlap the strokes.
7. Remove the tape.
8. Apply the other half of the graphic in the same manner.
9. To complete the application, go to **Finishing**, on page 9.

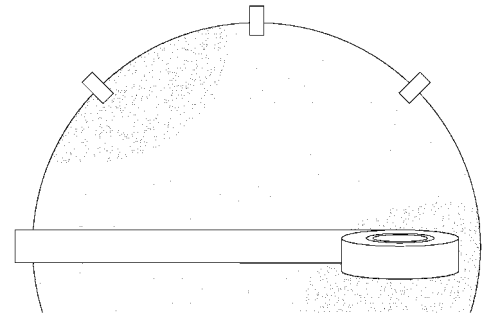


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Figure 10. Squeegee a Center Hinged Graphic

Applying Diamonds, Circles, or Intricate Shapes

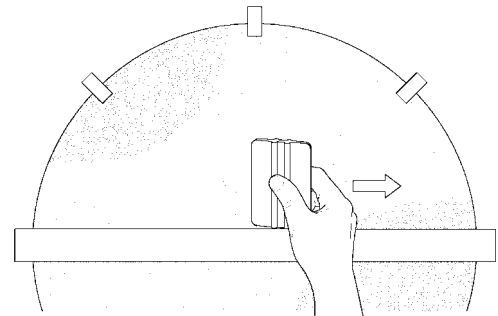
1. Use the **Center Hinge Method**, page 7. Apply a tape hinge across the graphic approximately 1/3 of the distance from the edge. See Figure 11.



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Figure 11. Make a Center Hinge on an Intricately-Shaped Graphic

2. Again, following the techniques in **Center Hinge Method**, squeegee the graphic beginning at the center of the tape hinge and working outward to the closest edge. See Figure 12.



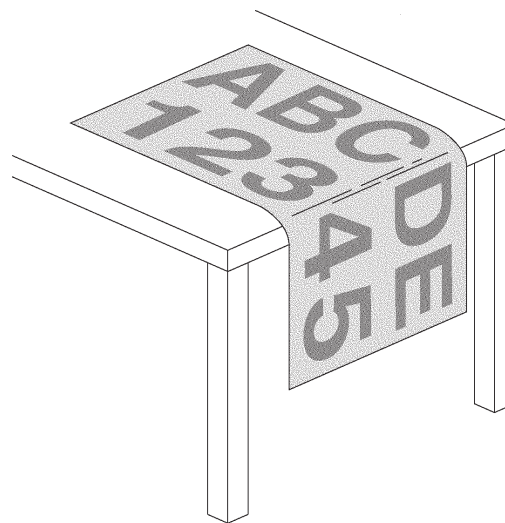
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Figure 12. Squeegee an Intricately-Shaped Graphic

Applying Large, Prespaced Graphics

Prespaced graphics have cut areas with large amounts of the liner exposed. Prespaced graphics should have an application tape already applied.

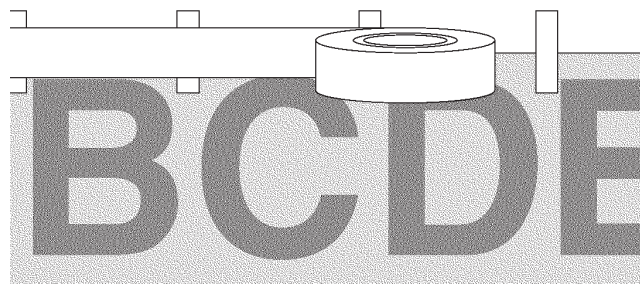
Note: If the application tape does not remove all of the prespaced graphics easily from the liner, press the elements back onto the liner. Then gently pull the graphic liner—side down over the corner edge of a surface. See Figure 13.



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Figure 13. Loosening Prespaced Graphics From A Liner

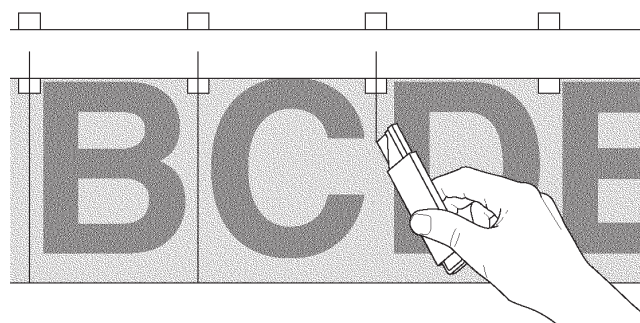
1. Apply a hinge. See **Top Hinge Method** on page 5 and Figure 14.



CG-267A

Figure 14. Make a Top Hinge on Prespaced Graphics

2. Cut between each element, starting just above the top edge of the film, which is partially covered by tape. This makes an independent hinge for each element. See Figure 15. To avoid cutting the substrate, lift the graphic away from the substrate cut only the film.
3. Remove the liner and squeegee each element in place. Use firm pressure and overlapping strokes. Always squeegee the shortest distance to the edge of each individual element.



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Figure 15. Cut Between the Elements of a Prespaced Graphic

Note: Squeegee over all areas of the prespaced graphics and application tape, not just the individual elements.

ON AWNINGS and FABRICS:

You may need assistance to properly install. If the fabric flexes, you will need a smooth flat surface to press against. This may require removal of awning or having an assistant hold a large flat panel behind the fabric to allow for proper contact.

On fabrics:

Allow three days with temperature greater than 70° for the adhesive to set up semi-permanently.

If a character becomes “tangled”, you may order a replacement character, so keep your order information handy.