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Vinyl decal application cheat sheet

Apply a cut vinyl decal without bubbles in about five minutes.

You'll need

- Squeegee or felt-edge applicator
- Isopropyl alcohol wipes
- Masking tape
- Measuring tape

Best conditions

- Between about 10 and 30 degrees C
- In the shade, not hot midday sun
- Clean, dry, smooth surface

Step by step

1. Clean the surface with an alcohol wipe and let it dry.
2. Position the decal with the backing on, and tape a hinge across the middle.
3. Peel one half of the backing away, cut it off and squeegee from the centre outwards.
4. Remove the hinge, peel the other half and squeegee again.
5. Peel the transfer tape back slowly at a sharp angle. If a letter lifts, press it down and rub again.
6. Leave it for 48 hours before washing or getting it wet.

Troubleshooting

PROBLEM	FIX
Small bubbles	Usually disappear in the sun within a few days. For a stubborn one, prick the edge with a fine pin and press the air out.
Letter lifted with the tape	Press the tape back down, rub firmly, and peel again more slowly.
Decal won't stick	The surface was dirty, cold or waxy. Clean with alcohol and warm the surface gently.

Need a decal made? See aresmakes.com/vinyl-decals/ or send your design to aresmakes@gmail.com.