

How to Apply 3M™ 2080 Vinyl Wrap

The 3M™ 2080 vehicle wrap film has pressure-sensitive adhesives for easy application. You can slide the film for precise positioning and repositioning. Invisible air-release channels form a bubble-free application. In this case, you don't need to apply an overlaminates because the wrap is the protective layer. The 3M™ 2080 vinyl requires dry installation and is semi-permanent. You can remove the vinyl film with heat or chemicals. It's also ideal for the vehicle to have the correct paint to substrate bond for an even process. Vehicles with scratches, dents or rust may make film installation difficult because the damages can become visible, but you can sand and prepare it before installation for a less drastic appearance.

Receiving a 60" roll of 3M™ 2080 Vinyl Wrap may seem intimidating at first. You may worry about bubbles, smooth seams and the general difficulty of a DIY installation. No matter your questions, applying vinyl film is a seamless process if you follow these guidelines:

Flat-Surface Installation

1. Wash each surface where you want to install the vinyl.
2. Measure the size of panel you want to wrap on your car, cutting a little extra. It is easier to trim too much extra than having too little and being out of luck.
3. Remove liner from the film.
4. Place the vinyl on the desired section of your vehicle — the adhesive technology allows you to position the film.
5. Spread the film to remove large wrinkles, but don't stretch.
6. Use the heat gun in circular motions, allowing the adhesive properties to conform to the car.
7. Use a squeegee to apply intense pressure. Starting from the center and pushing outward, remove any air bubbles trapped between the film and surface of your vehicle to an exit point — the air-release channels will make this process easy.
8. Remove any excess bubbles with an air release tool and press the film once more onto the surface.
9. Re-heat and squeegee the edges of the film to assure strong adherence.

Note: The biggest mistake when applying vinyl is excessive stretching. Although the material gives, forceful stretching may tear your vinyl, and it may not accurately align.

Bridging Installation

1. Bridging refers to elevated areas on your vehicle such as on the hood or side.
2. Stop applying vinyl 10 centimeters before the edge.
3. To avoid tension, lift the film and squeegee to the edge in one sweep.
4. Wait until the surface is cool from the heating gun to squeegee the vinyl.
5. Don't stretch the film at bridging areas because it may cause shrinkage or color fading.

Tips

- Never use wet application methods for the 3M™ 2080 series.
- Avoid sensors or safety equipment.
- Align vinyl to the appropriate section of your car — if needed, use masking tape to mark alignments.
- Use a squeegee or other soft materials to avoid scratches.
- Use a heat gun to adhere the vinyl — never use a torch.

Note: Matte finishes are prone to permanent glossing if you apply too much heat.

Pressure-Adhesives

- Slide vinyl into correct position — easy to reposition when needed.
- Stretch to fit rounded edges — film can stretch up to 130%.
- The snap-up feature loses its properties if you apply strong pressure and reposition the film or if you remove the film from its original liner and reapply.

Air Release Channels

- Allow trapped air to release through edges of film.
- Work from the center out.
- Channels will damage if you attempt to reapply the same liner.