

Care for your vehicle graphics like you would any fine paint finish. Using high quality products designed specifically for car care and these cleaning and maintenance procedures will help keep your vehicle graphics looking their best.

Wash Regularly

- Wash whenever the car appears dirty. Contaminants allowed to remain on the graphic may be more difficult to remove during cleaning.
- Rinse off as much dirt and grit as possible with a spray of water.
- See "Difficult Contaminants" on page 1, for spot cleaning bird droppings, tar, etc.
- Use a wet, non-abrasive detergent such as 3M™ Car Wash Soap 39000 or Meguiar's NXT Generation® Car Wash or Deep Crystal® Car Wash and a soft, clean cloth or sponge.
- Do not use common home dishwashing detergents, or any soaps not designed for vehicle washing.
- Rinse thoroughly with clean water. To reduce water spotting, immediately use a silicone squeegee to remove water and finish with a clean microfiber cloth.

Washing Method

- Start by rinsing the vehicle with clean water, removing any loose dirt or contaminants, thus avoiding scratching the graphics.
- Using the 'two bucket' method (one bucket filled with car wash and water solution and a second filled with clean water for rinsing), gently wipe the surface from front to back using with a synthetic or natural sponge or mitt, starting from the top of the vehicle and working down.
- Always rinse the sponge in the clean water before soaking in the soapy water in between sections.
- When finished, it's important to rinse the graphic thoroughly with clean water.
- Allow the water to dry naturally or dab dry with a Chamois or soft non-abrasive towel, being careful not to lift film edges.

Automated Car Washes

Brush-type car washes are not recommended as they can abrade the film and cause edges to lift or chip, as well as dulling the film's appearance. Brushless car washes are acceptable.

Pressure Washing

- Although hand washing is the preferred cleaning method, pressure washing may be used under these conditions.
- Ensure the water pressure is kept below 2000 psi (14 MPa).
- Keep water temperature below 180 °F (80 °C).
- Use a spray nozzle with a 40 degree wide angle spray pattern.
- Keep the nozzle at least 1 foot (300 mm) away from and perpendicular (at 90 degrees) to the graphic.

i IMPORTANT NOTE Holding the nozzle of a pressure washer at an angle to graphic may lift the edges of the film.

Difficult Contaminants

Soften difficult contaminants such as bug splatter, bird droppings, tree sap and similar contaminants by soaking them for several minutes with very hot, soapy water. Rinse thoroughly and dry. If further cleaning is needed, test one of these products in an inconspicuous area to ensure no damage to the graphics: Meguiar's Gold Class™ Bug and Tar Remover or 3M™ Citrus Base Cleaner. Isopropyl alcohol (IPA) (two parts IPA to 1 part water) or denatured alcohol may also help. Spot clean the contaminants. Do not use rough scrubbing or abrasive tools, which will scratch the film. Wash and rinse off all residue immediately.

Salty Environments

On boats and in areas prone to sea salt spray, it's important to clean the graphic more frequently. Furthermore, Graphic films are not designed to be permanently submerged. We recommend cleaning boat graphics with fresh water after each use, upon removal from the sea marine environment.

Fuel Spills

Wipe off immediately to avoid degrading the vinyl and adhesive. Then wash, rinse and dry as in "Wash Regularly" on page 1 as soon as possible.

Wax

Most standard graphic films and overlaminates can be waxed with a high quality car wax. Before use, test and approve in an inconspicuous area. Do not use any abrasive polishes or cutting compounds.

i IMPORTANT NOTE For general glossy films we recommends using Carnauba waxes.

i IMPORTANT NOTE We do not recommend waxes for MATTE material.

Store Indoors or Under Cover Whenever Possible

Vinyl graphics (just like paint) are degraded by prolonged exposure to sun and atmospheric pollutants, particularly on the horizontal surfaces such as hood, trunk lid and roof. Whenever possible, store in a garage or at least in a shaded area during the day. At night protect the car from dew or rain, which may contain acidic pollutants (a common problem in many large metropolitan areas). When a garage is not available, consider using a cloth car cover at night. If your graphics start to discolor or turn brown (which is caused by acidic pollution), immediately remove the graphics from the vehicle to avoid staining the underlying paint.

For any additional questions or concerns please contact us, or visit our website
<http://acerbos.com/how/graphics-care>