

## Film Installation Guidelines

### 1. Job Layout

- Plan your approach – if you have the option always stay away from the sun. The hotter the glass, the more difficult the installation will be.
- Discuss the plan with your helper or co-worker so they can stay ahead of your film application. This can greatly impact the quality and duration of the installation
- If you have not pre-cut your film, begin cutting film for your first location to be installed.
- Be aware of all sizes of windows on the entire project when cutting film. It is important to think through your film cutting to maximize yield and minimize waste. This process cannot be over emphasized. Take the time when you first begin a project to be efficient on your cuts.

### 2. Glass Prep

- Place adequate towels on the windowsills and floor to catch and absorb excess water when wetting the windows. Each circumstance is different and needs individual attention
- Make sure you are using a new, sharp 6” Triumph scraper and blade. DO NOT use any blades that show any signs of rust or imperfections. This can cause serious glass damage with permanent scratches and abrasions. It is not worth the price of a new blade!
- Be conscious of the framing system. A new, vinyl window will need less attention around the edges than a wood framed or puttied window. Always approach the edges with care, not driving the blade into the frame. This can cause damage to the frame material and even break a window if done with too much force.
- After cleaning the window with your scraper blade, it is paramount that you flush the glass and frame thoroughly. During the cleaning process you have dislodged dirt and debris that will end up behind the frame edging and you must flush this completely to avoid contamination during the film installation. This will take practice and experience to realize the level of flushing necessary on each window.
- A final squeegee to remove all dirt and water is next, followed by drying the edge with a paper towel or clean rag. You are now ready to apply the film.

### 3. Film Installation

- Now that your window is clean and ready for install, you need to plan how you will be applying the film on this particular window. Drop Rolling, Back Rolling and Pre-Peeling are the main methods used. If needing further explanation please contact your RMD.
- Wetting the window and/or film thoroughly is vitally important to avoid ‘dry spots’ between the film and glass when applied. If you end up with a dry spot, in more cases than not, you will have to replace that piece of film
- When possible, try and use a factory cut at the top of the window and not overlap the frame. This can help minimize contamination that can run back behind the film. By placing the film directly on the glass at the top, you will generally end up with a cleaner installation.
- Once the film is in place, immediately wet the outside of the film and begin your squeegee process. Normally you begin at the top, center of the glass and squeegee from the center to each edge, stopping about 1” from the frame edge. You don’t want to encourage dirt to be pushed back into the film from the frame, but you also do not want to let that edge dry out. This technique will come with experience and each circumstance can vary.
- **At least two and up to three** hard squeegee passes are necessary with high performance films to ensure that as much water as possible is removed. The larger the window, the more important this becomes.
- Trim the edges with a freshly snapped Olfa knife blade and a ‘Five Way’ tool or edge guide. These edge tools can vary and will be up to you to decide what you prefer.
- Final steps are to ‘wick’ or ‘bump’ the edges with a hard squeegee or edge tool wrapped with a paper towel or soft cloth. You need to remove as much water that has been left at the edges and behind the frame as possible.
- Lastly, a final light squeegee or wipe down to remove any fingerprints should be done. Go easy on the water – you don’t want to spray too much solution that will run down the window and collect in the frame. Spray just a light mist to dampen the film.

### 4. Walk Through

- When your job has been completed, you should do a final walk through to make sure you have not missed something. Check the edges and corners making sure they are all laying down properly and you have wiped down the film.