

Vehicle Wrapping – Which Product to Use?

The following is a simple guide to vehicle wrapping products offered by Metamark:

Application	Product	Why?
Full Vehicle Wraps	Metamark MD7	Suitable for application to compound curves, recesses, and rivets. Vehicles such as panel vans. When applying MD7 heat can be used to conform the product. See MD7 application instructions.
'Taxi Wraps'	Metamark MD5	MD5 can be applied to simple convex curves, such as those found on Taxis. The product should not be used with heat to conform it nor should it be applied stressed into recesses.
Bus Wraps	Metamark MD-BW	Bus Wraps are short term, promotional advertising, applied to flat panels. MD-BW benefits from being a removable grade film, with Viacom approval.

Vehicle Wrapping with MD7 Cast Film

Metamark MD7 is a cast vinyl, and unlike calendared vinyl's, it can be conformed into recesses, using gentle heat. One of the most important factors in successful vehicle wrapping is to achieve maximum initial adhesion. This is particularly important as vehicle wrap films such as MD7 have a repositionable adhesive, and therefore a lower initial tack. To do so, it is important to clean the surface correctly, and to avoid compromising the film during application.

Adhesives behave such that they lose much of the tack in cold conditions, when the film has been over stretched, when they have been left exposed such as lifting out of a recess, and when saturated solvent inks.

All solvent inkjet prints need to be overlaminated if the print is to withstand daily wear such as abrasion from cleaning and scuffs, as well as the acid from bird soiling. Overlaminating MD7 with MetaGuard 900 is highly recommended and make application simpler.

Preparation

The following are general guidelines for the use of Metamark MD7, and the success of the final wrap is dependent on the skill of the installer, temperature and moisture conditions, the print itself, and

vehicle profile. Once printed, allow 24-48 hours before application for the solvents to dry off. The vinyl should be applied dry.

It is vital that the vehicle is clean, warm and dry. Carefully clean the surface with soap and water, and then with isopropyl alcohol, particularly in any recesses where adhesion will be most needed.

Ensure the surface is at least 10°C, which can most easily be done by putting a fan heater inside the vehicle on cold days.

Vehicle Wrapping with MD7 – Application Guidelines

Apply MD7 dry. Any contaminants or moisture will weaken the final adhesion. Apply without the use of additional heat initially. This avoids compromising the properties of the film and adhesive. Work in small manageable areas, using the hinge method.

Use a felt squeegee, applying firm pressure in thin overlapping strokes, outwards from the centre, keeping the squeegee at about 45° to the direction of movement and about 30° to the surface. Keep the vinyl sheet to be applied at a low angle to the surface.

If any bubbles or creases appear in the material, simply lift and re apply. If the material becomes stretched, creased or distorted, simply apply gentle heat to the area to recover it.

We always recommend overlaminating MD7 with MetaGuard 900. As well as providing long term abrasion resistance, it eases application by making the film less prone to marking and makes the film more stable.

Trim some excess around fixtures, but only make the final trim once in its final position. Once in position gentle heat should be used over recesses. Doing so recasts the film to the shape of the surface and removes any stress

Wrapping with MD5 Calendared Film

Where the project demands a more economical calendared film, MD5 (or MD5-B) high performance calendared vinyl can be used, but with care. This allows short term wraps to be done on applications that would otherwise be too costly.

Calendared Vinyls should be applied unstressed into recesses. Follow points 1-4 of Care and Handling. Gentle heat can be used to help adhesion but should not be used to distort the film as they will be prone to pulling out of recesses.

Please Note: The above data is given in good faith to provide an indication of the performance of the product. Purchasers should consider the suitability of each product for its intended use and the purchaser assumes all risks in connection with such use. Seller shall not be liable for damages in excess of the purchase price of the product nor for incidental nor consequential loss.