TeckWrap EUROPE®

INSTALLATION GUIDE

COLOR VINYL | ALL SERIES

A little bit of theory & history:

In the realm of car wrapping, there are two primary production methods for foils: cast and calendered/hybrid.

Cast Foil

Cast foil is manufactured by melting pigments into a desired shape. This production method is utilized by reputable brands such as 3M, Avery, Hexis, Oracal, and KPMF.

Advantages of Cast Foils:

1. **Thinness:** Cast foils are typically very thin, averaging 70-90 microns, which makes them more stretchable and easier to apply.
2. **Durability:** These foils generally offer higher durability compared to other types.

Disadvantages of Cast Foils:

1. **Finish Quality:** Cast foils often suffer from "orange peel" effects, leading to a poorer finish quality.
2. **Color Range:** The color palette available for cast foils is limited.
3. **Protection:** Due to their thinness, cast foils offer minimal protection to the vehicle.

Calendered/Hybrid Foil

Calendered foil is produced by creating a paste of pigments that is then stretched into shape. Recently, a new production method has been introduced to create hybrid foils, which combine the properties of both cast and calendered foils.
This innovative technology was pioneered by TeckWrap and has since been adopted by other brands such as Inozetek.

Advantages of Hybrid Foils:

1. **Finish Quality:** Hybrid foils offer a paint-like finish with minimal orange peel effect and a highly glossy appearance.
2. **Color Range:** They come in a much wider color palette.
3. **Protection:** Being thicker, averaging 120-130 microns, hybrid foils provide better protection for the vehicle and feature mild self-healing properties.

Disadvantages of Hybrid Foils:

1. **Installation:** The thicker material makes the installation process longer and more challenging.
2. **Durability:** Hybrid foils have a shorter lifespan, typically lasting 3-5 years depending on geographical conditions. However, TeckWrap stands out by offering a comprehensive 2-year warranty that covers product defects, in addition to their durability recommendations.

By understanding the differences between these production methods, you can make an informed decision about which type of foil best suits your car wrapping needs.

MATTE & SATINS

The first and easiest type of film we will discuss are the matte and satin finishes. These films are excellent for beginners and experienced installers alike due to their versatile nature and attractive appearance.

Pre-Heating the Foil

JOne key difference to note is that these hybrid films are thicker than standard cast films. Due to their thickness, it is necessary to preheat the foil to a **temperature range of 40-50 degrees Celsius (104-122 degrees Fahrenheit) if you intend to stretch it.** Preheating is crucial as it makes the film more pliable and easier to work with, reducing the risk of tearing or creasing. The recommended maximum stretch amount for these films is 12%. Exceeding this limit could compromise the integrity of the film and lead to installation issues.

Application Process

The application process for matte and satin hybrid films follows the same basic steps as other foils you may have previously worked with. Begin by cleaning the surface thoroughly to remove any dirt, grease, or contaminants that could affect adhesion. Next, carefully position the film on the surface, ensuring it is aligned correctly before starting the application.

Handling High-Tack Adhesive

Because of the high tack of the glue TeckWrap films, it is advisable to avoid repositioning the vinyl once it has made contact with the car panels. Repeated sticking and unsticking can cause glue lines, which are visible marks left by the adhesive. To mitigate this, consider using a tack reducer solution such **as Johnson & Johnson or Triple S by Justin Pate.** These products help reduce the initial tack of the adhesive, making it easier to adjust the film during the application process. Use a squeegee to smooth out the film, working from the center outward to eliminate air bubbles and ensure a firm bond. Take your time with this step to achieve a smooth, professional finish. If you need to reposition the film, gently lift it and adjust as necessary.

MATTE & SATINS

Post-Heating

The most critical step when working with hybrid films is post-heating. Post-heating is the process of applying heat to the film after installation to set the adhesive and ensure a strong bond. This step should not be rushed; taking your time to do it properly is essential for a lasting application. For satin and matte films, post-heating needs to be done at a temperature range of 100-105 degrees Celsius (212-221 degrees Fahrenheit).

Use a heat gun to evenly apply Enhancing Durability with Ceramic Coating

To further enhance the durability and appearance of your wrap, we strongly recommend applying a ceramic coating over TeckWrap films. Ceramic coatings provide an additional layer of protection, increasing the longevity of the wrap and enhancing the depth and vibrancy of the colors.

Super Gloss HD Series

The TeckWrap HD series includes all of our gloss and super gloss films, known for their stunning visual appeal and exceptional performance. When working with these foils, it is essential to follow specific procedures to ensure a flawless application and long- lasting finish.

Characteristics of HD Series Films

The first thing to keep in mind about the HD series is that these films are characterized by an aggressive adhesive. This high-tack glue ensures a strong bond to the surface, but it also requires careful handling during application.

Removing the Protective PET Film

All gloss foils in the HD series come protected with a PET (polyethylene terephthalate) film. This protection layer prevents the surface from getting scratched or damaged during handling and transport. It is crucial to remove this protective film before you begin the application process. Failing to do so can result in poor adhesion and a suboptimal finish.

Pre-Heating the Foil

Due to the thickness of HD series foils, preheating is necessary, especially if you plan to stretch the film. Heat the foil to a **temperature range of 40-50 degrees Celsius (104-122 degrees Fahrenheit).** This preheating makes the vinyl more pliable, reducing the risk of tearing and making it easier to conform to complex curves and contours. Remember, the maximum recommended stretch for these **films is 12%.** Exceeding this limit can damage the foil and compromise the quality of the installation

Handling High-Tack Adhesive

Because of the high tack of the glue used in HD series films, it is advisable to avoid repositioning the vinyl once it has made contact with the car panels. Repeated sticking and unsticking can cause glue lines, which are visible marks left by the adhesive. To mitigate this, consider using a tack reducer solution such **as Johnson & Johnson or Triple S by Justin Pate.** These products help reduce the initial tack of the adhesive, making it easier to adjust the film during the application process.

Super Gloss HD Series

Preventing Micro Scratches

To avoid micro scratches on the vinyl surface, it is recommended to lubricate your squeegee. Lubrication allows the squeegee to glide smoothly over the film, minimizing the risk of scratching. Additionally, the HD series films have a slight self-healing property. If you do encounter minor scratches, you can apply heat or leave the car in the sun, and the scratches will disappear over time.

Post-Heating the Film

The most critical step in the application process of HD series films is post-heating. Post- heating involves applying heat to the film after it has been installed to set the adhesive and ensure a secure bond. For gloss HD films, post-heating should be done **at a temperature range of 110-115 degrees Celsius (230-239 degrees Fahrenheit).** Take your time with this step, as rushing it can lead to lifting and retraction of the film.

Enhancing Durability with Ceramic Coating

To further enhance the durability and appearance of your wrap, we strongly recommend applying a ceramic coating over TeckWrap films. Ceramic coatings provide an additional layer of protection, increasing the longevity of the wrap and enhancing the depth and vibrancy of the colors.

By following these detailed instructions, you can achieve a professional and long-lasting finish with TeckWrap HD series foils. Take your time, use the right tools and products, and enjoy the stunning results of your work.

CARE

To keep the TeckWrap Film in its best for the long term, do NOT wash of wax the wrapped vehicle for a minimum of three days following film installation. Regular washing and waxing is recommended after this period.

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