Solar Solve Ltd
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Adhesive Window Film Installation Guide and Important Information

We recommend that you read all of these sheets before you start to install adhesive window film.

Full rolls of film are 1.524 metres (5 ft) wide and 30.48 linear metres (100 ft) long.

Adhesive window films are made from a multi-lamination of micro-thin polyester. They have a scratch resistant coating to protect the film surface and enhance durability.

Adhesive window film should only be applied to flat glass. It should not be applied to polycarbonate, perspex (plastic) or Georgian wired glass. We do not recommend that metalised tinted window film is applied to double glazed units or highly tinted glass as thermal cracking is likely to occur (see photos).

Reflective films
Reflective films work on a ‘daylight privacy’ basis. Looking through the film is effective from the lower light level side of the film. This means that when film is applied to windows facing outside people can see out of the room during normal daylight, but people outside cannot see inside easily. The situation is the opposite at night - a ‘mirror effect’ occurs when looking out of the window so it is much easier to see into the room at night than out of it.

‘Curing Out’
The performance of window film is not fully effective immediately. A ‘curing out’ period should always be allowed of up to 30 days after installation. During this period, as the film begins to dry out, there may also be minor water runs and a slight film distortion, but this is only temporary.

‘Clouding’
Squeegying the film is vital in order to reduce or eliminate a ‘clouding’ effect caused by water condensation during ‘curing’. If clouding occurs it should only take a few days to clear completely. Ensure drying conditions are appropriate including room temperature and ventilation, otherwise clouding can remain for a longer period.

‘Light lines’
A ‘light line’ is a very narrow gap left all around the edge of the film after application (approx. 2 – 3 mm wide). It ensures that the water used to apply the film can be easily removed when squeegying and avoids the potential for water and suspended particles of dirt or dust to move under the film by capillary action. It also ensures that the installed film does not touch the window frame edge as this could lead to lifting and peeling of the film.

Water bubbles
Tiny water bubbles between the film and glass are normal. About 10 - 15% of the moisture remains between the glass and the film immediately after installation. Because the film is porous this moisture will slowly disappear through condensation. Bubbles that do not disappear can be removed by bursting with a very fine needle or sharp utility knife.

‘Inclusions’
‘Inclusions’ are dust particles trapped between the film and the glass and should be removed by peeling back the film away from the glass and flushing out with water. This is best done before squeegying otherwise the adhesive will start to take effect and it will not be possible to peel back the film without damaging it.

Maintenance
Clean windows as normal with a non-abrasive soft cloth.

Guarantee
Films have a manufacturer’s 5 year warranty against peeling, cracking, de-metalisation and de-lamination.
Installation Instructions

You will need the following materials:

- 1 x spray bottle filled with water and a few drops of normal “washing-up liquid”
- 1 x razor blade window scraper
- 1 x rubber squeegee
- 1 x pair of scissors and a sharp cutting knife
- 1 x roll of lint free paper towels
- 1 x towel (to absorb excess water on the window sill)

**STEP ONE**

Clean the glass thoroughly using the window scraper, the spray bottle filled with soapy water and the squeegee. Wipe the window frame with a lint free paper towel.

**STEP TWO**

Use scissors to cut a piece of film to a size which is 2 – 3 cm larger than the window pane.

**STEP THREE**

Spray the window with soapy water to hold the film in place. Use two pieces of sticky tape on one corner to help separate the adhesive film from the protective backing.

**STEP FOUR**

At the same time as you are pulling the film away from the protective backing, spray the adhesive side of the film generously with soapy water. This will stop the film sticking to the glass until it is in the correct position.
Thank you for your order

If you have any questions or queries, please email sales@solasolv.com

STEP FIVE

Turn the film around and apply the adhesive side to the window, which should be totally covered with soapy water.

STEP SIX

Spray the front of the film so that the squeegee slides easily over it.

*NOTE: DO NOT SQUEEGEE DRY FILM. IF THE SQUEEGEE DOES NOT MOVE SMOOTHLY OVER THE FILM, SPRAY AGAIN WITH SOAPY WATER.*

STEP SEVEN

Before squeegeying make sure there are no ‘inclusions’ between the film and the glass i.e. dust particles. If there are then flush them out with water.

For maximum bonding, squeegee from the centre towards the top and bottom, then to the right and left sides. Do not push the squeegee, always drag from the centre outwards.

STEP EIGHT

Use the cutting knife to trim the film. Leave a 2mm gap (‘light line’) all of the way around the edge of the window pane. (The film must not butt up against the window frame). Spray the film again and squeegee to smooth out any remaining air bubbles and remove water.
These are some photos of **thermal cracking** which can occur if metalised tinted window film is applied to double glazed units or highly tinted glass.