

TRIFECTA™

Installation & Removal Guidelines

Trifecta™ can be applied to floors, walls and windows. These guidelines have been developed to ensure an easy and successful installation. The key focus for any job is ensuring that the surface is in good condition and cleaned properly prior to application.

- Do **not** install on walls that have been painted within 30 days. Paints must be fully cured prior to installation. Applying the graphic prematurely to uncured surfaces may result in bubbling due to outgassing and/or adhesion failure.
- Walls must be properly cleaned prior to application (see below).
- Not all paints are created equally. Low-or-no VOC paints as well as matte/flat colors typically have lower adhesion values.
- Testing is recommended to ensure the desired results are achieved.
- Do not install on unsealed drywall, plaster, wood or composite materials.
- Wall should be free of defects.

Easy to apply and remove from these surfaces:



Installation

It is always recommended that you test a surface first to ensure compatibility. An 8 ½" x 10" sample sheet placed on the surface for at least 48 hours should provide the answer.

1. If your supplier sent your graphics rolled up, lay the sheet out for one day to allow it to flatten out.
2. Using a lint-free or micro-fiber cloth, wipe the application surface using cleaner suitable for the specific wall type to remove any dirt, grease and grime. A non-abrasive cleaner is generally recommended. Do not use any cleaner that will leave residual chemicals (specifically, waxes, oils, or surfactants) as they may impact adhesion of graphics to the wall.

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Tools You Will Need

- Degreaser/cleaner; note, use cleaner that does not leave any residual waxes, oils or surfactants as they may impact adhesion of the graphics to the surface. For windows, you may need solvent type cleaner, such as mineral spirits, heptane, V.M. & P naphtha or lacquer thinner to remove any grease, wax or oily substances followed by soap solution for cleaning glass.
- Isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol, IPA)
- Lint-free clothes
- Graphics squeegee
- For window applications: Spray bottle with water and a couple of drops of liquid soap for wet installation
- Pin or needle
- Optional: Masking tape and tape measure for positioning graphics

Floor Application

Graphics Considerations

- It is recommended that the graphics are produced with radius corners to provide a more robust product, less likely to experience edge lifting due to scuffing.
- If multiple sheets are to be tiled to create the final graphic, design so that the individual sheets will be butted up against each other. Do not overlap graphics as this will result in a trip hazard.

Choosing Your Location

- Ensure your flooring surface is in good repair, well bonded to structural surface. Loose, cracked or uneven surfaces will prevent the graphics from adhering properly and will present a potential trip hazard.
- It is best to avoid grout lines, when possible. Graphics do not adhere as well to grout unless sealed.
- If you are installing over grout lines, ensure that the edges of the graphics are fully supported and not aligned with the edge of a grout line. This will minimize the chance that lifting occurs during normal floor cleaning/ maintenance.

Surface Preparation

- Clean the surface where the graphics will be applied to remove all dirt, grease, oils and loose debris. Using a lint-free cloth with an appropriate neutral degreaser/cleaner for the hard floors, followed by isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol) should be sufficient.
- Ensure your surface is at least 40°F prior to installation.



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Floor Application Continued...

Installation

- Position graphics on desired location, for hard surfaces, avoid aligning edge of graphics grout lines. Use masking tape on one end, if necessary, to hold graphics in position.
- Remove release liner from corner (opposite corner if using tape), start to peel down and away from top, holding edge off surface.
- Using squeegee, apply pressured from middle towards edges with overlapping strokes. Ensure graphics conform to any grout lines.
- If repositioning is required, gently lift graphics and reapply.
- Ensure all edges and corners are applied with firm pressure.
- When more than one panel is used, butt the edges together. Never overlap graphics.
- After application is complete, do not polish graphics or surrounding floor for at least 24 hours.
- We recommend using an edge sealer to extend the life of the floor graphic. If edges lift at all from the floor, the graphics should be immediately removed from the floor and replaced. This is to prevent any trip hazard.

Maintenance

- After curing period, at least 24 hours from installation, Trifecta™ can be maintained using normal floor maintenance procedures.

Wall Application

Choosing Your Location

- Do **not** install on walls that have been painted within 30 days. Paints must be fully cured prior to installation. Applying prematurely to uncured surfaces may result in bubbling due to outgassing and/or adhesion failure.
- Not all paints are created equal. Low or no VOC paints as well as matte/flat colors typically have lower adhesion values. Testing is recommended to ensure the desired results are achieved.
- Do not install on unsealed drywall, plaster, wood or composite materials.
- Wall should be free of defects.

Surface Preparation

- Clean the surface where the graphics will be applied to remove all dirt, grease, oils and loose debris. Using a lint-free cloth with an appropriate neutral degreaser/cleaner for the wall.
- If the surface can tolerate Isopropyl alcohol (IPA), a good second step is to wipe down with rubbing alcohol (50/50 IPA/Water) using the lint-free cloth. This should remove any residuals that may have been left behind by degreaser/cleaner.
- Ensure your surface is at least 40°F prior to installation.

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Wall Application Continued...

Installation

- If your supplier has sent your graphics rolled up, lay the sheet out for 1 day to allow to flatten out.
- Using lint-free or micro-fiber cloth, wipe surface using cleaner suitable for specific wall surface to remove any dirt, grease and grime. A non-abrasive cleaner is generally recommended. Do not use any cleaner that will leave residual chemicals (specifically, waxes, oils or surfactants) as they may impact adhesion of graphics to the wall.
- If the surface can tolerate isopropyl alcohol (IPA), a good second step is to wipe down with rubbing alcohol (50/50 IPA/Water) using the lint-free cloth. This should remove any residuals that may have been left behind by step 1.
- Allow surface to thoroughly dry.
- When ready to apply graphics, peel back release liner at top edge of graphics, enough to attach to surface.
- Continue to work downward, peeling back the liner as you go, using the squeegee to smooth out graphics from center to edges to eliminate bubbles. Take care to not distort or stretch the vinyl.
- If repositioning is necessary, gently remove and reapply.
- Once complete, wipe entire graphic with soft, dry cloth to remove any dust or residue from application process.



Window Application

Graphics Considerations

- Graphic size should be limit to 2' x 2'. For larger graphics, it is recommended that you use our Sign-Ad® product.
- Graphics should have a minimum of 1/8" clearance around any window frame to allow for any differential in thermal expansion and avoid any excess heat that may be conducted by the frame itself during summer time exposure.
- Finally, if the window has a UV screen, anti-reflection film or other coating, please test sample to ensure surface will not be damaged by adhesive and film/coating does not interfere with adhesion.

Choosing Your Location

- Ensure surface temperature is at least 40°F or above. Hot surfaces are not a problem especially for the wet method that will be used here.

Surface Preparation

- If necessary, remove any grease, wax, and oily substances using solvent-based cleaner/degreaser.
- Use soap/water solution remove dirt and debris. Avoid any glass cleaners that will leave any residue as this may impact adhesion.
- Rinse with clean water to remove any traces of soap and then dry window with lint-free cloth.
- Final step, to ensure all residual chemicals have been removed, wipe down window with 50/50 isopropyl alcohol/water blend with lint free cloth.

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Window Application Continued...

Installation

Note: Wet applications may result in blushing of the adhesive (turning a slight milky or haze appearance). This is normal and should clear in 24 – 48 hours after installation, depending on conditions.

- Clean surface as detailed above
- Mark the desired decal location, leaving at least 1/8" space between graphics and any window frames. You can do this by placing the graphic on the window and taping it on the sides to hold in place, measure and adjust according. Once in position, tape top of graphics across the top and remove the other pieces of tape.
- Using wetting solution, lightly spray glass surface to be covered by graphics. Use the least amount of fluid to accomplish the application process. Do not spray adhesive side of graphics directly.
- Remove the backing paper a little bit at a time, and squeegee as you go, using firm, overlapping strokes, starting in center and working towards edges. Continue until liner is completely removed. Remove tape from top, if used.
- If application tape is being used, remove it by peeling at 180 degrees against itself.
- Dry the entire area with clean lint-free cloth and re-squeegee the graphic with firm strokes, working away from the center towards the edges. This step is essential to prevent edge lifting.
- If air or water bubbles occur, puncture with a pin or needle and smooth down with squeegee.
- If water bubbles are not removed completely, the adhesive will absorb the water and it will create white spots. If this occurs, remove excess water using pin or needle and squeegee smooth. White spots should disappear within 2 to 3 days. Do not try to speed up drying process with heat.
- Gently wipe down graphics area with lint-free cloth.
- Ultimate adhesion values will occur within 24 to 48 hours after application. Do not clean or disturb graphics during this time period.

Graphics Removal

Although removing graphics is much more straight-forward than installing, proper technique will help ensure a clean removal.

- Start at any edge of the graphics and gently lift off enough to grab. For larger graphics, the edge can be slit and allowed to tear, so that the graphics can be removed in sections.
- Slowly peel back on itself at a sharp angle. This will minimize the chances of paint pulling off or adhesive residual being left on the surface.
- Continue at an even pace until completely removed. If any residual adhesive that does stick to surface, use isopropyl alcohol to remove.

Disclaimer

There are so many different types of wall surfaces, paints, textures and other variables affecting the application success of this product, it is imperative that the end user determine the suitability of this product for the specific application. Nekoosa will not be held liable for any cost resulting from a failed application of this Trifecta™ product. Printer/End user assumes all risk and costs associated with the application of this product. In the event of a failure that is due in part or in whole to a manufacturing defect, Nekoosa will replace the material only.

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