

# MIDTOWN SIGNS

KANSAS CITY, USA

www.midtownsigns.com

## Materials Needed to Install Vinyl Graphics by Hinge Method

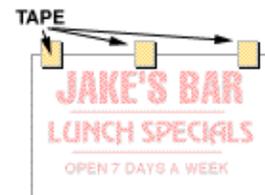
- Small cutting knife or razor blade. (an Exacto Knife is ideal for the job)
- A Spray bottle filled with a mixture of dish soap and water.  
The mixture ratio is; 3 drops of soap to 1 pint of water (optional for small decals)
- Plastic Squeegee, or credit card
- Dry Towel / Paper Towels
- Roll of Masking Tape

## Vinyl Graphic Installation

The graphic consists of three separate pieces.  
Pre-mask / Vinyl Graphic / Liner



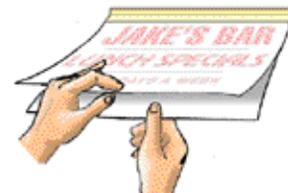
**1.** Make sure surface is clean, dry, and a workable temperature. Using small tabs of masking tape, measure and tack the graphic to the intended surface. This is to insure proper placement before the liner is removed.



**2.** Apply horizontal strip of masking tape to the top of the graphic over the tape tabs from step 1. The strip of tape should be split between the graphic and the intended surface on each side (as shown). This strip will be used as a hinge that will insure the graphic does not move during the application process.



**3.** Hold the bottom edge of the hinged graphic away from the intended surface and remove the liner to reveal the sticky backing of the vinyl. Save this piece of liner for use later in the application process.



### **CAUTION::**

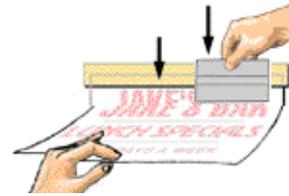
**Do not let the exposed graphic touch the intended surface. The back of the graphic is very tacky and will tightly adhere to the surface.**

**If the placement is not correct, removing the graphic for re-placement will be very difficult or impossible without causing damage to the vinyl.**

**4.** To assist in proper placement, spray the intended surface with the mixture of soap and water. (This coating of water reduces the tackiness of the vinyl, letting you lift and re-place the graphic if necessary. (optional for small decals)



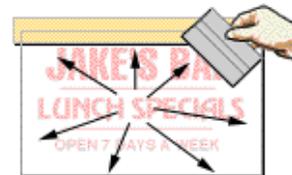
**5.** While still holding the hinged graphic away from the intended surface. Using the squeegee and starting from the top, begin to marry the graphic to the intended surface.



**Notes:**

- Work from top to bottom.
- Do not let the entire graphic fall onto the intended surface.
- If lines or creases develop, lift and re-place the graphic.

**6.** Once the graphic is in proper position and lying perfectly flat on the intended surface, you can now start forcing the water out from beneath the graphic. Starting from the center working outward, use firm strokes with the squeegee to force the water out from beneath the individual letters or elements contained in your graphic.



**7.** After all letters and elements have had most of the water squeegeed out from beneath them, wait 10-15 minutes for vinyl to stick down. It is now time to remove the pre-mask from the graphic and reveal the final product. Gently remove the pre-mask slowly and pull it back on itself, not straight up. Be careful not to pull the graphic up with the pre-mask paper.



**8.** Squeegee out any remaining water bubbles using the piece of left over liner. Lay the piece of left over liner over the graphic, with shiny side of liner facing you. Proceed to apply hard pressure to squeegee out any remaining water or air bubbles. Or poke the bubbles a few times with the knife and work the air out.



Don't worry, small bubbles will dissipate over a few weeks.

## Removing Vinyl Graphics

Vinyl graphics and decals can be easily removed. Heat the decal with a heat gun, hairdryer or sunshine. Then using your fingernail, pick the corner edge of the decal and pull it up. Overheating the decal will result in more difficult removal, as will not enough heat. Once the vinyl is removed, use PREPSOL, thinners, alcohol or an orange cleaner (Goo Gone) to remove any glue residue.