

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

WEATHER & TEMPERATURE

If working outdoors, choose a warm, dry day with little wind. **The air and application surface must not be below 10°C**
The adhesive will not work properly below this temperature.

PREPARING THE SURFACE

Clean HARD surfaces, INFLATABLES and NON-POROUS surfaces very thoroughly with hot soapy water, and wipe over with METHYLATED SPIRIT or SURGICAL SPIRIT (NOT White Spirit or Paint Thinners).
DODGERS, SPRAY HOODS, SAILS, and other fabrics should be washed or thoroughly cleaned.

ENSURING THE SURFACE IS SOUND

Adhesion is only ever as good as the underlying surface.

Ensure that any paint and varnish is sound (properly applied and keyed) and not flaking or chalking.

Do not apply to very freshly painted surfaces - since not only is there a possibility of unevaporated solvents affecting adhesion, but the application tape may lift the uncured paint layer.

Surfaces **must** be absolutely clean, dry, free from dust, grease, silicone, wax and fingermarks. On new hulls, and new inflatables ensure that all traces of mould release wax are removed.

THERE ARE TWO METHODS OF APPLICATION - DRY (the preferred method) and WET.

1. DRY METHOD

ITEMS ON APPLICATION TAPE (Names etc.)

These can be recognised by the name being sandwiched between a translucent (or clear) face film (the application sheet) and a thick paper backing sheet.

1. Place the name (still sandwiched between the two protective sheets) in the place required, and mark the position of the four corners (to enable you to reposition later).
2. Put the name FACE DOWN on a flat surface. Smooth down to ensure that none of the lettering has detached in transit. CAREFULLY and SLOWLY remove the BACKING SHEET, pulling it back at a VERY sharp angle whilst keeping the application sheet taut and making sure the letters transfer from the paper backing sheet to the application sheet. NEVER ATTEMPT TO PEEL WITH THE NAME FACING YOU THE RIGHT WAY UP.
3. Hold the Application Sheet with your name on (you will need helpers on large names), an inch or so from the surface it is to be applied to - DON'T LET IT TOUCH - and line up the four corners with the marks previously made.
4. Starting in the centre, smooth a letter at a time down using the applicator provided. Don't worry if the Application Sheet creases. Work outwards from the middle, till all letters are down.
5. CAREFULLY and SLOWLY peel off the Application Tape at a sharp angle, making sure the letters stay behind on the surface.
6. Smooth down the letters, working outwards from the centres, to expel any trapped air. Use quite firm pressure, especially around the edges, to ensure good adhesion.
7. Sometimes, air gets trapped behind a letter - this often goes on its own over a few days, but in persistent cases, pierce the centre with a pin held at a shallow angle to release the air, and rub down carefully from the edges to the centre - the mark rarely shows.

.... Storage of Names

Store names **FLAT** in a cool place ... **not** in original packing.

ITEMS WITHOUT APPLICATION TAPE

Bend back and sharply crease an inch or so of the backing from one of the edges. Stick that edge down in its correct position, then progressively peel the remainder of the backing, smoothing down the decal as you go, working outwards from the centre to expel air.

STRIPING TAPE

The easiest way to get a fair line is to apply a length of masking tape first, adjusting it until the line is straight, and then to use the edge of the masking tape as a guide to apply the striping.
Peel the backing from the tape, a foot or so at a time, and lay in position - peel back carefully if not right first time. Fingering the adhesive can affect its adhesive qualities. Only stretch tape if necessary round curves. On compound curves gentle heat may be needed (e.g. a hair dryer) to get it to conform. Smooth down very firmly when finished, paying particular attention to the ends.

INFLATABLE NAMEPLATES

THOROUGH CLEANING IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL. Scrub dinghy very thoroughly with Washing-up liquid in hot water. Dry with a clean cloth and repeat. Scrub with Meths (do not use any substitute) - dry with a clean cloth and repeat.
Peel backing from nameplate and apply when inflated - rub down firmly, then deflate and rub down firmly again. The adhesive is time curing - maximum adhesion is achieved over several weeks.

2. WET METHOD

WE DO NOT ADVISE THIS METHOD UNLESS YOU UNDERSTAND CLEARLY THE PRINCIPLE INVOLVED

This method will only work on smooth, flat, sealed surfaces.

By spraying the adhesive back of the graphic/tape with dilute washing-up liquid (approx 1 teaspoon to a gallon of water) the adhesive can be neutralised temporarily, enabling it to be moved around until in place, and at the same time helping to eliminate air bubbles. Do not apply pressure until in place - if you do so by mistake, remove the whole item re-spray the adhesive and start again. Once the graphic is in place, smooth down firmly,

holding the applicator at a shallow angle, and working Union Flag pattern from the centre, forcing out the water. When applied, leave the application tape on for approx four hours before removing carefully by pulling back at a sharp angle..

It is important to smooth the graphic down again after 24 hours to ensure the adhesive has a firm grip. Any remaining solution will disperse slowly over the next few days.

Graphics applied by this method take longer to cure down fully.

All statements and advice offered herein, are made in good faith, but do not express a warranty as the conditions of application and use are beyond our knowledge and control.