

SELF-ADHESIVE MATERIALS: WET APPLICATION

The following are recommendations when wet applying self-adhesive materials to smooth surfaces such as on glass:

1. Ensure substrate decal to be applied to is free of dirt and grease.
2. Always use the minimum amount of water. The addition of a small quantity of neutral detergent, such as washing-up liquid, helps by reducing the surface energy of the water and allows less water to be used.
3. Keep the time the adhesive is in contact with the water to a minimum to reduce the level of whitening of the adhesive caused by re-emulsification. All water based adhesives will show a small level of whitening but this will disappear after 24 hours once the water has been removed.
4. Ensure the decal is squeegeed from the centre to the edges and that all the water is removed during this process.

Important Notes

- Decals must be kept flat and free of dirt and grease at all times.
- Ensure sufficient working space available for fixing process.
- Ensure decals have been stored under the recommended conditions of 22°C (71,6°F) and 50-55% relative humidity.
- Ensure temperature at point of application is an absolute minimum of 5°C (41°F).
- Arrange decals in logical manner according to sequence of application. Use a table or rack of sufficient size to facilitate this.
- Clean cloths, soft squeegees, knives, pins and brushes should be close to hand.
- A clearly marked application plan must be available for the operators.
- It is essential that contact with the adhesive side of the decals be kept to an absolute minimum. No dust, dirt or grease must be deposited on the adhesive surface.

- Ensure substrate decal to be applied to has a level and even surface.
- Do not stretch the decal during application.
- It is particularly important not to force the decal into corners. This will result in stretching and eventual delamination in service.
- Remove any air bubbles by puncturing with a pin and firm application of the squeegee.
- Be aware to keep at least 2 mm (0,0787 inches) from the edges, cut and remove.

In case of doubt, ask for further information:

<https://www.ritrama.com/en/contacts/#information-request>

IMPORTANT

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Considering the multiple uses of Ritrama's products, the user is recommended to test the products prior to their use, so to determine and ascertain the suitability and performance of the product for its intended application and purpose.

The methods of conversion and application of Ritrama's self-adhesive materials are multiple and it is therefore essential that the users are aware of the particular method to be used, prior to commencing the production.

Printing: Testing for compatibility between product, printers and inks is always highly recommended before printing the product.

Application Systems and Conditions: it is recommended that the performance of the product be always tested in the actual applications conditions as substrate state (rough, smooth, flat or irregular shapes, moderate curves, with or without rivets); applicator technology (hand application or fully automated lines); specific stress on Ritrama material once applied (high and/or low temperature, mechanical stress, exposure to challenging environment conditions), et cetera.

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