



### **Required Tools**

-A heat gun turned to the highest heat setting (many tinters use two strapped together to cover a wider area)

-A Professional Window Tint Application Kit which includes the following items:

- > The application squeegee will reduce air bubbles and aide in heat conforming the tint.
- > The utility knife will allow you to trim your tint kit around third brake lights.
- > 16oz application solution will allow you to position the film properly for application.
- > Low lint cloth will allow you to remove dirt on your windows for a professional result.
- > The Nylon Scrubby will clean all dirt and debris promoting adhesion to your windows.

If you choose not to purchase the Professional Window Tint Application Kit from Rvinyl you will need to purchase all of the items above separately.

### **Surface Preparation and Cleaning**

-Clear the interior of the vehicle of all objects which impede access to the windows.

-Clean and prepare a work area such as a work bench or table. This should be free of debris, dirt and dust and big enough that the pre-cut tint sections can be laid flat on the surface.

### **Front and Back (Side) Window Preparation**

-You will need to remove any parts of your vehicle which are in contact with the glass surface area to aid in the installation procedure. You may need to remove inner plastic pillars, tape back the felt window draft guard or even remove the door panel trim to have good clear access to your window. If you want professional results, you will need to take the time to prepare your vehicle.

- Most cars have a felt edge inside that guides the glass as it rolls up and down. When this felt gets wet it 'bleeds' tiny black felt hairs. These really stand out when the film is dry. To avoid this I will roll the window as far down as it will go, and cover the felt with masking tape, then roll the window back up until the top of the window is about 1/2 inch from the top. Spray the window down with Window Tint application fluid (included in the Professional Window Tint Application Kit) or with a 10:1 parts water to mild soap solution and clean it with a hard card or razor blade. The blades won't scratch if they are new and the window is wet.



-Spray the glass again lightly, using the microfiber cloth included in the Professional Window Tint Application Kit, wipe the edge of the glass and frame in one stroke to pick up heavier dirt, wipe your squeegee with a moist blue shop paper towel, and make one pass along the side of the window, wipe your squeegee again, start at the dry side you just did and squeegee sideways to the other side, repeat until you reach the bottom. Then a last stroke down the side you were squeegeeing toward and the window should be completely clean and dry. Next flush the window from the top down with soapy water keeping the very top edge dry. If you flush the very top edge, it will bleed dirt, as your squeegee won't quite dry the top. Flush the middle first, finish by flushing the sides.

### **Rear Windshield Window Preparation**

-You may need to remove the rear deck trim or third brake light housing to have good clear access to the rear window and allow for proper heat shrinking and excess water removal. The rear window is the most difficult window to tint. Take the time to prepare this area as this is where most mistakes will occur.

-Spray the inside of the glass with soapy water and scrub it with a white abrasive dish sponge. Only use white or blue scrubbies, the green ones scratch glass.

-Squeegee the glass dry and wipe the dotted edge with a paper towel to lift up the black residue the ceramic edge gives off, (this will help the film to stick to the dots.) and spray the window again, this time squeegee very carefully to get all of the water off. Now flush the window from the top down, avoiding the very top and the dots, if the window has them, to prevent dirt from bleeding down. Just flush the area that's going to receive the film.

### **Preparing and Applying the Film**

-Layout out the pre-cut tint sections flat on a table. Squeegee it clean and dry often. Mist your table or mounted glass and place the film in a good position. You are going to peel the film here so you want it clean, and in such a position that you can quickly pick it up and mount it with a minimum of movement through the air to avoid contamination.

-Once you have your glass prepared, mist down the air in the immediate area to control dust and static, then peel your film. Get a corner started and slowly peel away the liner, keeping the part that is peeling on the cutting surface to keep it from creasing. If you let the dry adhesive touch itself once



the liner is off then you will need to reorder discounted replacements as the film will be ruined so be sure to spray the adhesive as you peel.

#### **Front and Back Window Tint Sections**

-Wash the windows in preparation to receive the film one at a time. Without touching the adhesive side of the film, lift it up (just use the very tips of your fingers or fingernails on the very edge of the film where it's not going to show) and place it onto the glass. You should rehearse this movement beforehand if you aren't experienced.

-Roll down your glass about 1/2 inch from the window felt. With the window down and the application solution applied. Remove the liner from the precut window tint, apply the soapy slip solution to the film. Be sure there is enough solution on the film and the glass to insure the film will not adhere prematurely before it is positioned. Lay the film near the bottom of the wet glass and slide it down into position as you lay the top of the precut film kit into position. Squeegee from the anchor point, this will keep the film from sliding while you work from the middle out. You may now roll up the window and squeegee the bottom out. Blot away and excess water with a paper towel (we recommend wrapping the hard card with a paper towel for this procedure).

-As you are squeegeeing, (on roll up windows) do the top first, work down avoiding the edges until last, stroke downward. Spray the film and squeegee it again, more firmly this time, to remove more water from under the film.

#### **Rear Windshield Tint Section**

-Carefully position the film around any obstacles. The more it gets bumped or the edges lift from touching something, then more contamination will be drawn under the film.

-To lay in the precut tint, roll it up and reverse the liner and roll it out onto the prepared inner surface. Squeegee it out, etc. Fingers or creases at the top and bottom will appear. Use the below technique to remove fingers.

#### **Removing Fingers**

-You must use a heat gun on high setting, a hair dryer will not work. You are only shrinking the finger itself, just pass the heat gun over the finger quickly until you see it distort slightly, then smooth it out. If you spend just a moment too long over the finger it will burn, or shrink



unevenly. The trick is not to crease the film when you smooth it, so the first time use a rolled up paper towel to smooth the finger down to keep the film wet against the glass, otherwise larger fingers will bind and crease if you use the application card first, repeat the process with a grey application card.

*Note: the film will only shrink properly if the fingers are aligned with the grain of the film. As you unroll film from side to side the proper grain direction is up and down, i.e. If you have a window 45" wide horizontally and 18" vertically, using a 20" roll, the fingers need to point up and down toward the straight factory cut edge. Fingers always need to be moved toward the factory edge. Squeegee a horizontal anchor onto the glass to anchor the middle and sides moving all the excess to vertical fingers.*

-Start from a small anchor point and squeegee horizontally, following the defroster lines. Those lines grab the film pretty quick, so make sure you have the film in all the right places. After the squeegeeing is done, mist the film and squeegee again much more firmly to remove as much water as possible.

#### **My car has matrix dots, what to do?**

Most newer cars have a black ceramic trimming the edge of the rear window. Sometimes this ceramic has a straight edge and sometimes it has a dotted edge. Usually this dotted edge is only 1/4 inch wide or so. The window film usually won't stick to these dots flush, so there will be a pocket of air trimming the glass. On most cars this isn't very noticeable. The problem is that some cars have a six inch wide band of dots on the upper edge of the back window. If that is the case, the pocket of air created is so large and uneven, that it is very unattractive.

Some ways to deal with this are to apply vinyl to the dotted area or leave the wide band of dots untinted, then after the film has dried for 3 days, mask off the dotted area with masking tape and paper, then paint the area with flat black enamel spray paint. Let the paint dry for a while and then remove the masking.