

**Care of Hidrive
Fleetbrand™
vehicle signage.**

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These cleaning and maintenance tips will help maintain the premium look and longevity of your vehicle signage.

Infrequent or improper maintenance may lead to premature degradation of graphics, lower the expected life of the signage and void the signage product warranty.

Hand Wash:

1. Pre rinse: Using a hose, rinse the vehicle with clean water. This helps remove the loose dirt particles and helps avoid scratching the graphics.
2. Wash: Wash vehicle in the shade, gently wash the vehicle with a mild soapy water solution using a soft cloth or a synthetic or natural sponge. Start from the top of the vehicle and work down. Avoid abrading the surface with unnecessary scrubbing.
3. Rinse: Rinse thoroughly with clean water.
4. Dry: Let the signage dry naturally. To avoid water spotting, use a silicone squeegee to remove water then finish drying with a micro-fibre or soft, nonabrasive towel.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q. Can I drive through a car wash?

- A. A touchless automatic car wash is technically the best choice of automatic car wash for vehicles with signage, however, because you have no control over the direction or pressure of the water jets there is a possibility that this could cause damage to the signage. Brush type car washes should not be used, and are likely to cause damage to both the vehicle and the signage.

Q. Can I use high pressure cleaning equipment?

- A. High pressure cleaning equipment is technically suitable, but extra care must be taken. The equipment must have a maximum pressure of 1200 psi (80 bars or 84 kg/cm²), and a wide angle (up to 90° spray head nozzle) is used. That's because excessive water pressure and intense water spray, can cause damage by forcing water underneath the graphic. If the cleaning system is heated, a water temperature of 70 degrees Celsius should not be exceeded. In order to reduce the risk of decal edge lift, a minimum distance of 30cm should be maintained from the nozzle to the film surface. Additionally, the dispenser nozzle should always be perpendicular (90° +/- 10°) to the film surface. Sharp angles of the water stream or intense localised water spray generated from a narrow angle spray nozzle, can promote decal edge lift, edge curl or de-lamination through the loss of adhesion.

Q. What detergent should I use for a hand wash?

- A. Use a mild car cleaning detergent and water mix that does not contain any strong soluble substances, alcohol or abrasive components. The detergent should have a pH balance between 5 & 9.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q. When should I clean my vehicle?

- A. The vehicle should not be cleaned within the first 48 hours of the signage being applied. After this 2-day period, it is recommended to wash your vehicle every 2 weeks, or a minimum of once a month

Q. Can I wax my vehicle?

- A. Yes, as long as the wax does not contain petroleum distillates, which is found in many paste waxes. Products that are a combination of a waterless wash and wax are great options as long as the vehicle doesn't have a matte finish on the signage and isn't excessively dirty. Test the wax on an inconspicuous part of the vehicle first.

Q. What about difficult spots?

- A. Spot clean contaminants, such as bird droppings, bug splatter, tree sap, and similar contaminants as soon as possible to avoid damage to signage. Start by soaking for several minutes with hot, soapy water. Then rinse thoroughly. You can spot clean with isopropyl alcohol and a clean, non-abrasive rag. If a harsher chemical is needed, be sure to test first in an inconspicuous area. Try the Avery Dennison power cleaner in the Supreme Wrapping™ Film Care line at <https://graphicsap.averydennison.com/en/home/graphics-products/vehicle-wrapping-films/supreme-wrap-care.html>

Q. What if my signage has a matte finish?

- A. Use a waterless wash that is recommended for matte finishes, such as Chemical Guys – Meticulous Matte https://www.chemguys.com.au/Meticulous-Matte-Detailer-Spray-Sealant-470-ml-p/spi_995_16.htm Waterless wash products containing wax can fill in the texture and cause shiny spots. A lighter matte finish will be prone to showing more dirt than other finishes. Use a 50/50 mix of isopropyl alcohol and water to spot clean matte finish signage. If the alcohol and water mix does not remove dirt, you can try using a hot soapy water solution. You can also try an all-purpose cleaner purchased at your local hardware store.

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