

## STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO PERFORM HYDRO DIPPING

### Step 1: Prepare Your Film

1. Cut the hydrographic film to size, leaving **at least 4 inches of extra material** on each side.
2. Identify the **shiny side** — this side goes **down** on the water.
3. Ensure your workspace is clean and dust-free.

 *Pro Tip:* To test which side is shiny, touch a damp finger to one corner — if it sticks slightly, that side goes down.

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### Step 2: Prepare the Water

1. Fill your tank or container with **clean water at 110°F (43°C)**.
2. Let the surface **settle** so it's calm and free of bubbles or debris.

 *Tip:* Incorrect water temperature can cause film distortion or poor adhesion.

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### Step 3: Activate the Film

1. Place the film on the water's surface **shiny side down**.
2. Let it sit **for 60 seconds** to hydrate and flatten.
3. **Shake your Squirrel Hydrographic activator can thoroughly for 1–2 minutes.**
4. Spray evenly from right to left at a **45° angle**, about **6–8 inches away** from the surface.
  - Use a **light, even coat** for best results.

 *Check:* The film should “glass out” (appear smooth and glossy) once activated.

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### Step 4: Dip the Object

1. Put on **latex gloves**.
2. Hold your part at a **slight angle** and **slowly submerge** it through the activated film.
3. **Move steadily** to prevent air bubbles and stretching.
4. Once submerged, **shake gently underwater** to remove any excess film before pulling it out.

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## Step 5: Rinse

1. Rinse under **cold water** for up to **5 minutes** to remove residue.
2. Switch to **warm water** for another **2–3 minutes** until the surface appears **completely dull** (no slime or gloss).
3. Be gentle — avoid strong water pressure.

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## Step 6: Dry and Finish

1. **Pat dry** with a **microfibre cloth** — do not rub.
2. Handle only with **latex gloves** before applying a clear coat.
3. Apply a **high-quality clear coat** to protect and enhance the finish.

 *Pro Tip:* Allow your part to fully dry before clear coating for a durable, glossy result.

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## Safety Notes

- Always spray activator in a **well-ventilated area**.
- Avoid open flames or high heat sources.
- Wear gloves and eye protection.

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