

## Reflective Helmet Decal Application Instructions

Please visit [reflectivedecals.com/instructions](http://reflectivedecals.com/instructions) for more detailed instructions, tips and helpful step by step photos.

Doing a little preparation will make the application process smoother and help ensure your helmet comes out looking great. Apply in temperatures above 70 degrees F.

You will need: Sharp scissors. Scotch tape. Glass cleaner. Lint free cloth.

### Clean Your Helmet

Using glass cleaner, we prefer Windex, clean the surface you are applying the decals to thoroughly.

### Prepare your decal

With your sharp scissors cut the decal sections apart. Removing excess material minimizes bunching during application.

### Plan Your Design.

It helps to know at least where you want to start. *You can use as many or as few pieces as you want.* The first piece of vinyl along with features of your helmet give you points of reference. Planning ahead can help you sort out any curves or plain changes in the helmet surface that could affect the vinyl. You will know ahead of time how the vinyl will react and how the finished product will look.



The decals should stop about 1/4" from opening such as vents.

Now separate the backing from the vinyl and masking by carefully peeling the backing away. Do this at a sharp angle to reveal the silver adhesive side of the decal. Treat it like kryptonite, it's very sticky even before curing.



We always suggest applying a decal from one side, not from the center out. Your helmet contours and personal preference will dictate what the best method is. The goal is to apply the vinyl in a way that allows it to flatten and conform to the helmet.

We do not suggest lifting and repositioning the decals. If you think this is something you may need to do spray Windex on the surface first for a wet application. This will allow you to slide the decal around a bit. You must squeegee the moisture and air from beneath the decal before removing the masking if you decide on a wet application. Failing to do this thoroughly will result in bubbles later. This technique is not ideal as it takes a bit of skill, but it does work and is used regularly by sign makers.

## **Applied Graphics** at *ReflectiveDecals.com*

Once the decal section has made full contact it's time to work out any bubbles or creases and activate the adhesive. Starting from the center rub and push outward all the way to the edge of the vinyl. **Be thorough**. If air is trapped it will be forced out. If there is a small crease the vinyl will flatten and fill that void. The vinyl does have similar properties to rubber. When warmed by your fingers it can conform.

All that is left to do at this point is to remove the masking. Start from one end and peel it back at a sharp angle.

Your decal should almost look painted on. You do not want to see any gaps or lifting.

If everything looks good move onto the next piece.



As your putting the pieces on and the design is coming together step back often and look at the helmet as a whole. Many times we have gotten so absorbed with applying decals uniformly that we didn't realize we were using the wrong piece. Labelling the pieces can help avoid any mix ups.



Please allow 24 hours for the vinyl to cure before exposing to the elements.

Thank you for ordering from Applied Graphics.