



## 993 Stone Guard

### Installation

#### Tools & Materials Recommended

- Installation squeegee (a Bondo® filler tool can be used - be very sure there are no sharp edges!)
- 1 quart spray bottle
- Baby shampoo
- Non-scratch detailing cloth

*Clear guard material is transported in a tube as this is the safest way to ship it. You can lay it flat for a day and it will relax, or, when the paper is removed, the 3M material goes limp.*

Here is a short video (by a mask kit supplier) showing the installation of a simple piece of material using only a slip solution: [http://www.invisiblemask.com/images/bpw\\_med.wmv](http://www.invisiblemask.com/images/bpw_med.wmv)

#### Important

- Setup and work in a dust-free, well-lit environment with little or no wind, and out of direct sunlight
- Be sure the painted surfaces to be covered are clean, dry and free of wax residue
- Prepare the slip solution before you begin
- Don't rush the installation

#### General Information

1. The ideal environment is a temperature range between 50 and 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Never apply in inclement or windy weather (applying indoors may be advisable). If your temperature is below 50 degrees Fahrenheit, we suggest using warm water in your squirt bottle.
2. By spraying the slip solution onto the surface to be covered, and then wiping it off with your detailing cloth, you should have no trouble eliminating any oil, grease, dirt, or other contaminants. Be certain to remove any wax on the areas to be covered. The guards must not be installed onto a surface that has been newly waxed. Note: dishwashing liquid is one method of stripping wax from a painted surface. You can also use "3M Adhesive Remover" or something comparable to remove any wax.
3. Once you're ready to begin, remove all dirt from your hands. If even the tiniest bit of dirt is ignored, this will relocate to the adhesive and cause a very unattractive appearance. It's also advisable to keep your fingers wet to keep them from sticking to the adhesive. Never handle the adhesive side unnecessarily. Occasionally, you will need to handle it, but it must be done lightly and quickly. Fingerprints will transfer through the material if handled too often or for too long.

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## Stone Guard Removal and Installation Instructions

1. The effort required to remove the old guards ranges from "*I can't believe how easy that was! Why do all of those fools complain about it being so hard?*" to "*Why did I decide to do this myself instead of paying someone a lot of money?!*"

There are a variety of tricks for the tougher jobs. A hair dryer or heat gun is helpful to soften the old glue. An old credit card is a good tool to assist in scraping off the old material. Glue residue can be cleaned up with Lift Off<sup>®</sup> or Goof Off<sup>®</sup> glue removal products. I found Lift Off<sup>®</sup> to be more effective on this glue. YMMV.

2. Fill your spray bottle with water and add 3 generous drops of baby shampoo. This is your slip solution.
3. **Review the "General Information" above very carefully.**
4. Mark the **bottom and rear edge** of the guard position with painter's masking tape while you can still see the old guard's position. This will help you position the new guard. You only need two small pieces of tape in a couple of places.
5. After the old material is removed, use a polish of some sort to do final clean-up and remove the line that will likely be left from edge of the old guard. You may also notice the finish under the old guard is very nice, while there may be light scratches adjacent to it. Polish the area to your satisfaction. **Use the slip solution to thoroughly clean the area after polishing.**
6. Begin installation by aligning the new piece with your tape marks. If you didn't mark its position, don't worry. It is pretty obvious where this piece belongs. It is usually best to align the bottom rear corner and then the bottom edge to align it and then follow the contour of the wheel well.
7. Wet the fender area with the slip solution. Remove the paper backing and wet *both* sides of the material with the slip solution. Lay it on the fender, starting at the top, being careful to **only let it touch the area you have wet with the slip solution**. Once you have the piece positioned, use the squeegee to smooth out the bubbles.
8. At this point, **you can still peel back the material** to get to more stubborn, trapped bubbles. This stuff is more durable than you might expect. Even if it is stretched a bit, you can squeegee it flat and, once the moisture is out, it will stick. The material will normally return to its original shape.
9. Complete the process with repeated passes of your squeegee to remove any bubbles or air pockets. You may need to wrap your squeegee with a paper towel to ease out any persistent areas and to smooth out the edges. If you squeegee out more moisture, **be sure to dry the edges**.