



SIGN-AD® HI-STAT®

A NEKOOSA BRAND

WINDOW GRAPHICS INSTALLATION & REMOVAL

Our Sign-Ad® and Hi-Stat® products are specifically design for window and glass applications. The following are step-by-step guidelines that will take you through a successful, trouble-free installation and removal.

BEFORE GETTING STARTED – SOME GENERAL GRAPHICS CONSIDERATIONS

Graphics should have a minimum of 1/8" clearance around any window frame to allow for any differential in thermal expansion and avoid any excess heat that may be conducted by the frame itself during summer time exposure.

When Sign-Ad® products are used, you need to consider the impact on differential heat absorption from color contrasts that can cause excessive thermal stress on the glass. It is recommended that graphics with mostly dark, heat absorbing colors limit the size on the window up to 75% or less. Also avoid large areas of light/dark adjoining contrasting colors as these can also create thermal stress resulting in glass breakage.

Heat absorbing colors can also cause some inks to shrink, distorting the vinyl. Discuss details of your project with your ink supplier to ensure the best match for the application.

Please work with your graphic designer to ensure these considerations above are factored in to the final product.

Finally, if the window has a UV screen, anti-reflection film or other coating, please test sample to ensure surface will not be damaged by adhesive, for Sign-Ad®, and film/coating does not interfere with adhesion.

Easy to apply and remove from these surfaces:



TOOLS YOU WILL NEED

- Degreaser or solvent type cleaner, such as mineral spirits, heptane, V.M. & Pnaphtha or lacquer thinner to remove any grease, wax or oily substances
- Soap solution for cleaning glass of dirt and debris; avoid cleaners that can leave chemical residue.
- Isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol)
- Lint-free clothes
- Graphics squeegee
- Pin or needle
- For large graphics (greater than 12" x 12"), use wetting solution:
- Spray bottle with water and a couple of drops of liquid soap
- Optional: Masking tape and tape measure for positioning graphics

SURFACE PREPARATION

Before starting, ensure surface temperature is at least 40oF or above. Hot surfaces are not a problem although the wet method is recommended to avoid premature bonding and the chance of distorting the graphic during installation.

For proper adhesion, the surface must be free of dirt, grease, oils and other debris that may interfere with the quality of the installation.

Note: If your window has a protective film (such as UV screen), please check the compatibility of cleaning agents before proceeding.

- If necessary, remove any grease, wax and oily substances using solvent-based cleaner/degreaser.
- Use soap/water solution to remove dirt and debris. Avoid any glass cleaners that will leave any residue as this may impact adhesion.
- Rinse with clean water to remove any traces of soap and then dry window with lint-free cloth.
- Final step, to ensure all residual chemicals have been removed, wipe down window with 50/50 isopropyl alcohol/water blend with lint free cloth.
- Ensure your surface is at least 40° F prior to installation.



APPLICATION METHOD

Option 1: Dry Method, intended for small graphics.

1. Clean surface as detailed above
2. If your Sign-Ad® graphics release with difficulty from the release liner, rub the back of the liner against a sharp edge of your workbench. This step helps break the bond between the graphic and release liner.
3. Mark the desired decal location, leaving at least 1/8" space between graphics and any window frames. You can do this by placing the graphic on the window and taping it on the sides to hold in place, measure and adjust accordingly. Once in position, tape top of graphics across the top and remove the other pieces of tape.
4. Keeping fingers away from the Sign-Ad® adhesive or the back of the Hi-Stat® cling vinyl, peel backing paper approximately 1" from the top of the decal. Fold down and crease the backing paper. Squeegee in position from center to edges.
5. Remove the backing paper a little bit at a time, and squeegee as you go, using firm, overlapping strokes, starting at the center working towards the edges. Continue until liner is completely removed. Remove tape from top, if used, and squeegee area.
6. Application tape can be used for Sign-Ad® products using the light release tape; not recommended for the Hi-Stat® products. If application tape is being used, remove it by peeling at 180 degrees against itself. Re-squeegee entire graphic.
7. If any air bubbles occur, puncture with a pin or needle and smooth down with squeegee from the center towards the edges. This step is essential to prevent edge lifting.
8. Gently wipe down graphics area with lint-free cloth.

Ultimate adhesion values will occur within 24 to 48 hours after application. Do not clean or disturb graphics during this time period.

Option 2: Wet Method, for larger graphics or intricately die cut shapes. Additionally, this method is useful in hot weather because it minimizes the chance of the decal tearing/distorting and pre-adhesion.

1. Clean surface as detailed above
2. If your Sign-Ad® graphics release with difficulty from the release liner, rub the back of the liner against a sharp edge of your workbench. This step helps break the bond between the graphic and release liner.

Note: For Sign-Ad®, wet application may result in blushing of the adhesive (turning a slight milky or haze appearance). This is normal and should clear in 24 – 48 hours after installation, depending on conditions.

1. Clean surface as detailed above
2. If your Sign-Ad® graphics release with difficulty from the release liner, rub the back of the liner against a sharp edge of your workbench. This step helps break the bond between the graphic and re-lease liner.
3. Mark the desired graphics location as shown in under dry method, step 3.
4. Using wetting solution, lightly spray glass surface to be covered by graphics. Use the least amount of fluid to accomplish the application process. Do not spray adhesive/back side of graphics directly.
5. Remove the backing paper a little bit at a time, and squeegee as you go, using firm, overlapping strokes,

starting at the center working towards the edges. Continue until liner is completely removed. Remove tape from top, if used, and squeegee area.

6. Application tape can be used for Sign-Ad® products using the light release tape; not recommended for the Hi-Stat® products. If application tape is being used, remove it by peeling at 180 degrees against itself. Re-squeegee entire graphic.
7. Dry the entire area with clean lint-free cloth and re-squeegee the graphic with firm strokes, working away been removed, wipe down window with 50/50 isopropyl alcohol/water blend with lint free cloth.
8. If air or water bubbles occur, puncture with a pin or needle and smooth down with squeegee.
9. If water bubbles are not removed completely when using Sign-Ad®, the adhesive will absorb the water and it will create white spots. If this occurs, remove excess water using a pin or needle and squeegee smooth. White spots should disappear within 2 to 3 days. Do not try to speed up drying process with heat.
10. Final step, to ensure all residual chemicals have been removed, wipe down window with 50/50 isopropyl alcohol/water blend with lint free cloth.

Ultimate adhesion values will occur within 24 to 48 hours after application. Do not clean or disturb graphics during this time period.





REMOVAL PROCESS

Sign-Ad®

Remove the Sign Ad® graphics lifting one edge with sharp knife or razor blade and peeling back at a sharp angle.

Use consistent, smooth force to continue to peel off the graphics. For larger graphics, the edge can be slit and allowed to tear, so that the graphics can be removed in sections.

If any residual adhesive that does stick to surface, use Isopropyl Alcohol to remove.

Hi-Stat® Static Cling Vinyl

As there is no adhesive used with this product, removal is easy. Once lifting the edge of the graphics, simply pull smoothly off the glass.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please feel free to contact us at sales@nekoosa.com and your inquiry will be directed to the appropriate contact.

DISCLAIMER

This information is provided as guidance in the proper installation of our Sign-Ad® and Hi-Stat® graphic products. It is always recommended that the customer test specific application prior to installing actual job. Nekoosa can not be held liable for the miss-installation resulting in premature adhesion failure or glass breakage due to thermal stresses.

Contact Nekoosa today for a **FREE** sample at samples@nekoosa.com

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT

with easy to apply two-sided
window graphics

Laminate **Barrier Film** to **Sign-Ad® Clear** or **Hi-Stat® clear** to create double-sided push pull window signage



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