

Film Sizes

Q: What sizes are available?

A: 6 mil thickness:	12 mil thickness
4" X 84"	1" X 12.5 yards
6" X 84"	6" X 20 yards
12" X 84"	12" X 20 yards
2" X 40 yards	24" X 20 yards
4" X 40 yards	
6" X 40 yards	
12" X 40 yards	
18" X 40 yards	
24" X 40 yards	

Q: Is the film available any wider than 24 inches?

A: Not at this time; we hope to have wider material by June of 2002.

Q: When should 12-mil film be used?

A: The 12-mil film should be used on flat or smooth surfaces with greater exposure to stone chips, bug damage or weathering, such as racing and off-road vehicles.

Tools

Q: What tools are needed to apply the film?

A: Application Tools	3M Part Number
Orange Squeegee (Note: This squeegee is preferred for application of protective films to avoid scratching of paint or film.)	#71607
Air Release Tool	#72604
Scalpel, Akukut* or sharp razor blade	
Alcohol and water solution: 25% isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol with 75% water for application**	
Spray Bottle	
3M™ General Purpose Adhesive Cleaner	#08984
3M™ Prep Solvent 70	#08984
Isopropyl Alcohol	
Clean Work Table	
3M™ Application Tape	#75906, #75951 or #76051
3M™ Perfect-IT™ III Detailing Cloth	#06016

*The Akukut is available from Tobias Associates, Inc., 50 Industrial Drive, Warminster, PA 18975 (215-322-1500).

**Important Note: Some state Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) regulations may prohibit the use of this alcohol/water solution. For example, the California South Coast Air Quality Management District prohibits use of this solution without a permit and other California AQMDs prohibit use of the solution without a permit or a regulatory exemption. You should check with your state environmental authorities to determine whether use of this solution is restricted or prohibited.

Q: Are there any marketing tools available for 3M paint protection film?

A: We have a point-of-purchase display and inserts. Each display holds about 30 inserts. You can get these through your 3M sales representative or from an authorized 3M distributor if you are not buying direct from 3M.

Q: Is there a step-by-step application video available for 3M paint protection film?

A: You can call Theresa Moe on 651-733-6315 or e-mail at tamoe@mmm.com.

Q: What type of cutting equipment do I need to cut kits?

A: Most vinyl film plotters will work. Here are a couple of resources:
Gerber original and Gerber II – Gerber II can handle wider parts which is not an issue for paint protection film but can be for vinyl.

Phone: 1-800-321-2448

Web: www.gerbertechnology.com

Zund System – Suppliers:

- Mikkelsen Graphics Engineering
801 Geneva Parkway
Lake Geneva, WI 53147
Phone: 262-348-0400
Contact: Steen Mikkelsen
- Western Graphtec
Model Pro FC4100-75 or FC5100-75
11 Vanderbilt
Irvine, CA 92618
1-800-854-8385

Q: Is there kit cutting software available? Where can it be purchased?

A: As far as we know, no company sells the software; some of the companies listed at the end of this document will sell individual kits or downloads from the internet.

Application/Maintenance/Removal

Q: How should surfaces be prepared before application?

A: All surfaces must be cleaned prior to film application. On repainted vehicles, paint must be thoroughly dry and cured before any attempt to apply film to the vehicle is made, in order to avoid film bubbling due to paint outgassing. Check paint manufacturer's instructions for recommended cure time and method.

Q: Is there a certain temperature at which 3M paint protection film must be applied?

A: The film should be applied when air and application surface temperatures are between 13° C - 32° C (55° F - 90° F). Surfaces may be heated in order to raise the surface temperature. This may be done with a portable heater, heat lamps or hot water.

Q: Can the film be applied dry?

A: A wet application is highly recommended for 3M paint protection film. Use a solution of 25% isopropyl alcohol and 75% water. **Spray the entire adhesive surface of the vehicle on which it is to be applied. DO NOT use detergent and water or apply dry, as it may result in a hazy appearance of film and long-term adhesion may be adversely affected. Keep the adhesive wet during application to facilitate repositioning.

**Important Note: Some state Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) regulations may prohibit the use of this alcohol/water solution. For example, the California South Coast Air Quality Management District prohibits use of this solution without a permit and other California AQMDs prohibit use of the solution without a permit or a regulatory exemption. You should check with your state environmental authorities to determine whether use of this solution is restricted or prohibited.

Q: Will the film harm the painted surface?

A: If the film is properly applied to a fully cured painted vehicle, it can be removed, usually in one piece, without damaging paint surfaces.

Q: Can the film be painted over?

A: No.

Q: Can the film be applied over graphics?

A: The clear film will not interfere with vinyl or painted graphics and is designed to match the clear coat, providing virtually seamless protection. However, if the 3M paint protection film must be removed, it may damage the underlying graphic during the removal process.

Q: Can the film be used on headlights or windshields?

A: No, paint protection film does not meet the Department of Transportation's standards for optical clarity. However, 3M does make 3M™ Scotchshield™ Ultra Safety and Security Window Film Ultra 150™ that are used in the race car industry on the outside of the windshield as temporary surface protection. It is also used to temporarily protect windshields in the RV industry as they are transported to the dealer.

Another product in this family line is 3M™ Scotchshield™ Ultra Safety and Security Window Film SCLARL400™ and ULTRA 600. They have 26 and 39 layers of patented polyester that offer superior strength. When applied to the inside of a window, these strong and flexible films help to hold broken or shattered glass in place when impacted due to bomb blasts, severe windstorms, earthquakes, and smash & grab burglary attempts.

For further information, please call the 3M Consumer Safety and Light Management Department at 1-800-480-1704 or visit their website at www.3m.com/windowfilm.

Q: Can the film be used on boats, other watercraft or aircraft?

A: The film was first manufactured by 3M for the aerospace industry and was modified for application in a wide variety of industries including boat, water sport and aircraft markets. For further information, contact us at 1-888-364-3577.

Q: Does the film resist yellowing?

A: Yes, it resists yellowing because the film is constructed of thermoplastic urethane, a tough, conformable material that is covered by a clear coat layer. The film contains UV protectants to counteract harmful ultraviolet rays that can cause yellowing.

Q: How is 3M paint protection film maintained?

A: Once applied, refrain from washing the vehicle in an automated car wash for 24 hours. Washing after that time presents no problem, and no special care need be taken for the film. When waxing the vehicle, some wax may build up along the film edges. This can easily be removed when dry with a soft brush such as an old toothbrush.

Q: How is 3M paint protection film removed?

A: If desired, film can be removed at any time by picking up a corner of the film and pulling the film off the vehicle surface at a 90-degree angle. If the film has been present a long time, or if the film and vehicle are cold, a heat gun or hair dryer may be used to soften the adhesive, allowing easier removal. If any adhesive remains on the vehicle after removal of the film, use 3M™ General Purpose Adhesive Cleaner.

Purchasing

Q: How much does the film cost?

A: 3M sells the bulk rolls through distribution; you can find it at most automotive paint suppliers or see the list at the end of this document. The model-specific kits vary in price by model and coverage level. Some vehicles require more protective film.

Q: Can the film be purchased directly from 3M?

A: Please discuss with the 3M sales representative in your area.

Warranty

Q: What is the warranty?

A: 3M's warranty is for product only and not the application. We will replace any defective film within two years from the date of purchase. This warranty is to the original purchaser.