

Conversion, Application and Removal Instructions for MPI 6121 Street Graphics Decal

Instructional Bulletin #6.60 ([Revision 3](#))

Dated: 10/06/11

Contents

- 1.0 Overview
- 2.0 Converting of Material
- 3.0 Surface Preparation
- 4.0 Application Tools
- 5.0 Temperature
- 6.0 Registration
- 7.0 Key Application Tips Before Proceeding
- 8.0 Application Procedures
- 9.0 Professional Application Services
- 10.0 Graphic Removal Process

1.0 Overview

This bulletin provides procedures for converting, applying and effectively cleaning and removing Street Graphics decals from horizontal substrates.

2.0 Converting of Material

- *To print the MPI 6121 Street Graphics product it is recommend to UV curable inks only.*
- *It is highly recommend that a low tack premask be used for the application of MPI 6121 Street Graphics such as ApliTape™ 4000 low tack. It is recommended that you test print and apply premask to confirm compatibility.*
- This material is not recommended for cut letter or intricate cut graphics. As the material is designed to crack and fracture, weeding will be difficult at serifs and in intricate designs..Never use a protective laminate with MPI 6121 Street Graphics films when used as pedestrian or vehicular traffic area graphics..

NOTE: Documentation of application date, material lot number, and application conditions (temperature, etc.) is required to support warranty claims in the event of decal failure.

3.0 Surface Preparation

- The surface must be completely dry. Check all cracks, pits, and crevices for any remaining moisture.
- It is required to use a push broom on the potential application area. Using short brush strokes, brush the substrate from three different directions to ensure the area is dust free. A push broom in concert with a leaf blower will aid substrate preparation time.
- Be sure that the application substrate is in good repair and free of “growing” cracks or crumbling sections.
- Also identify that the decal location is free from drainage or dedicated runoff and not prone to standing water.

Digital Technology Information
Instructional Bulletin



4.0 Application Tools

- Squeegee
- Heat Gun or Weed Burner (torch with flame spreader attached)
- Razor Knife
- 3" Rivet Brush (Avery item # Z1011)
- Push Broom
- High tack Duct or Masking Tape

5.0 Temperature

- Ambient Air Temperature - Ideal conditions are 70°F/21°C or greater.
- Surface Temperature - Ideal conditions are 70°F/21°C or greater, but graphic can be applied with temperatures as low as 55°F/14°C.

NOTE: The markings can be applied if the ambient air and substrate surface temperature are between the minimum and maximum application temperature specified in the appropriate Product Data Bulletin. During cold temperature months, it is recommended to use a weed burner on the surface of the graphic after application. This will accelerate the ultimate adhesion of the film.

6.0 Registration

- Use a permanent marker or marking tape, to mark the decal location on the application surface. It is not recommend to use a chalk line as the dust will contribute to poor graphic adhesion.
- When overlapping multi-part decals, the actual overlap should be at least 0.25 in.(6mm) width and less than 0.5in. (13mm).

7.0 Key Application Tips Before Proceeding

- Surfaces must be completely clean and dry free and in good repair. This is a critical first step toward successful decal application.
- Follow the guidelines toward minimum and maximum application temperatures and required service conditions before and after application.
- Do not use application fluid or the “wet method” during installation.
- The decal must be squeegeed and brushed before and after premask removal. Allow graphic to dwell for 4 minutes before removing the premask (longer for colder days). During premask removal, decals are exposed to potential edge lifting. In order to eliminate this, re-squeegee the decal (especially the edges). Wrap a squeegee sleeve or soft clean rag around the squeegee to prevent potential damage to the decal. Use of a heat gun or torch around the edges to increase ultimate adhesion.
- The decal must be re-squeegeed or brushed along the cut edge to prevent potential edge lifting.

8.0 Application Procedures

The following instructions show a step by step procedure for installing large premasked graphics. The method used is the Top Hinge Method also use of the no hinge method can be performed at the discretion and expertise level of the applicator. For questions regarding application procedures or instructional videos on proper application techniques contact Avery Dennison's Customer Technical Support Department.

Digital Technology Information

Instructional Bulletin

8.1 Application procedure large premasked marking top hinge method - Avery® Films

1. Using previously marked registration masks position the marking on the application surface using a weight to hold it in place.
2. Once the decal has been properly registered, apply a tape hinge along the top edge of the decal.
3. Cut through the masking tape along the sides of the decal.
4. Flip the marking up over the hinge and remove the liner. Always remove the liner from the marking.
5. Hold the decal away from the application surface with one hand and squeegee from the top center downward and outward. Use firm, short, overlapping strokes. This will help prevent wrinkling of the film. Remove the masking tape hinge (if one was used). Re-squeegee the top edge to which the tape hinge was applied using overlapping, upward strokes. After squeegeeing, use of a rivet brush or scrub brush on the premask to work the material into the highly dimensional portions of the application surface.
6. Remove the premask/application tape from the decal by peeling back on corner of the mask and pulling it back at an 180° angle.
7. Re-squeegee the entire decal using very firm squeegee pressure, including all edges. A torch or heat source can be used around the edges of graphic to help adhere the edges.

9.0 Professional Application Services

- The above information provides basic information on how to apply pressure-sensitive graphics. The instructions are designed to help ensure success across a broad range of applications. Depending on the size and complexity of applications, a certain amount of expertise is needed.
- Professional applicators can be hired to ensure proper application of finished graphics. When mounting graphics in remote geographic areas, professional applicators can offer the added benefit of local service. Consider hiring a professional whenever the application requires:
 - multiple panels to be registered
 - harsh environmental conditions (i.e. outdoor applications in high heat climates)
 - remote geographic locations
- Contact the Professional Decal Application Association at 800-562-2596 for information on member applicators and services.

10.0 Graphic Removal Process

The safety requirements of the pressure washer must not be compromised during graphic removal.

- Prior to graphic removal make sure the surface of the graphic is free of debris and loose material that can become a flying hazard during the removal process. Also determine direction of the spray, prior to graphic removal, and remove all potential hazards.
- A pressure washer with a 2000 psi or greater rating is recommended for graphics removal.
- Note depending on the integrity of the substrate, loose stone and material may break free as a result of the water pressure.
- The recommended nozzle size for graphic removal is a 25° or 35° nozzle.
- Allow the pressure washer build to operating pressure before starting the removal process. Consult the manufacturer's operating manual before use.
- Working from an edge of the graphic; it is suggested to spray the graphic from a distance of 3 to 5 inches from the surface at an angle away from the body (A shorter distance maybe required depending on the application of the graphic).
 - Note: Take care to spray in a direction away from coworkers, children, pets, property, and other potential hazards, as flying particles may occur.
- Using a short sweeping motion, work your way across the graphic until the entire graphic is removed.

- After removal of the graphic, collect all the remnants of the graphic and dispose of properly. A use of a temporary barrier to spray the graphic towards greatly reduces site clean up time.
- For hard to remove sections of the graphic a 0° nozzle maybe used.
 - Note: Use of 0° nozzle may cause potential substrate damage.
- Depending on the roughness and type of substrate, there may be a small amount of adhesive residue as well as graphic material remaining

Avery Dennison makes no representations or warranties with respect to this product and installer assumes all risks and liabilities associated with the preparation of the surface, application of the material and removal. Avery Dennison recommends that you comply with all applicable safety standards, including the use of the proper personal protective equipment.

Revisions have been italicized.

Avery Dennison™ is a registered trademark of Avery Dennison Corp.