

Please read these instructions and view our videos before you start installation:



www.nextlevelride.com/videos.html

► Before You Begin

Installing on a Vehicle That Has Been Waxed

If the paint has been recently waxed, then at minimum you need to remove the wax around the edges where the kit will be installed. This will insure the film will properly stick and seal on the edges with less of a chance of it peeling up later. You can simply use the alcohol/water solution in this area to remove the wax.

Be Very Careful Handling the Film

A bend in the film can cause a permanent crease which can be visible when installed. Large pieces should be handled by 2 people to prevent folding. Do not attempt to install in the wind.

Keep the Film Wet

When installing, keep film wet on both sides. Spray the slip solution often until you have aligned the film. Also keep your hands wet while handling the film on the adhesive side.

Controlled Environment

Installation should always be performed in a controlled environment with a temperature range of 50° to 90° F. Application should never be performed in windy conditions.

About the Fit ...

NextLevelRide™ makes every effort to assure that all precut paint protection film kits have been test fit or otherwise checked for fit and suitability for the specific make and model advertised.

With certain makes and models, inexperienced installers may feel as if the kit does not fit correctly, but it will fit 100% when installed using the correct methods. This film can be stretched and in some cases it is required to stretch the film to fit or to prevent a "wrinkle" around compound curves. Be very careful not to over-stretch the film.

► Tools, Tips & Instructions

Tools & Materials Recommended

- Soft Installation Squeegee
- 1 Quart Spray Bottles (quantity - 2)
- Baby Shampoo
- 70% Isopropyl Rubbing Alcohol
- Non-Scratch Detailing Cloth, such as Microfiber

Quick Tips

- Setup and work in a dust-free environment with little or no wind, out of direct sunlight.
- Be sure the painted surfaces to be covered are both clean, dry, and free of wax residue.
- Pre-mix both the soap solution and the water/alcohol solution before you begin.
- Don't rush the installation.

General Instructions

- 1 The optimum environment is a temperature range between 50 and 90 degrees (Fahrenheit); never apply in inclement or windy weather. (Applying indoors may be advisable here.) If your temperature is below 50 degrees Fahrenheit, we suggest using warm water in your squirt bottles and running the car beforehand to get the hood area warm.
- 2 Prepare a slip solution in one of the spray bottles, filling it with water and adding 3 - 5 large drops of baby shampoo. Prepare the alcohol/water solution using 2 parts alcohol and 3 parts water.

Please note: Our online videos demonstrate not using a slip solution, but different installers use different methods. We leave it up to you to decide which method is best for you, but the kit is much easier to work with using a slip solution.

- 3 Be certain to remove any wax on the section that your kit will be installed or at least the edges of the area to acquire a good seal.

Please note: Dishwashing detergents are one method of stripping wax from a painted surface. You can also use “3M Adhesive Remover” or the alcohol/water solution mentioned above.

- 4 By spraying the slip solution and alcohol solution onto the intended surface to be covered, and then wiping it off with your microfiber cloth, you should have no trouble eliminating any oil, grease, dirt, or any other contaminant.
- 5 Before removing the liner, make certain you confirm all part placements and sizes.
- 6 Once you're ready to begin, remove all dirt from your hands. If even the tiniest bit of dirt is ignored, it can relocate to the adhesive and cause an unattractive appearance. It's also advisable to keep your fingers wet to avoid 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 too long.
- 7 *To avoid any scratching of the film, use plenty of slip solution on top of the film. You do not want to swipe the squeegee across the film dry as it could catch and mark the film.*

▶ Hood Kit

Installation Instructions

- 1 First, use the slip solution to wet the hood completely. Keeping your fingers wet and the material rolled up, carefully separate a small quantity of the film from the liner on one end. Using one hand to hold the remaining rolled up kit, and the other to gently hold the material you've already loosened, place the loosened material onto the area of the hood you want covered. As you slowly, but gently, pull the liner to the opposite side of the hood, the material releases itself naturally onto your hood. Be especially careful not to stretch or rip the material while rolling it onto your hood, particularly if your specific kit includes a “relief cut”. (A relief cut is any thin cut-out within the material that departs from the natural hood outline which will help the material to lie smoothly over curves or broadly contoured surfaces.) If necessary, using gentle finger motion, release the liner from the material in and around any relief cut.
- 2 Once you have the material placed on the exterior, you'll want to position it correctly. Therefore, to slide it easily, spray more of the slip solution between the hood and the material by carefully lifting one side at a time. Spray the solution, replace the material, and continue to the other side. Take your time to gently lift and pull the material off of the hood so as not to stretch the material unnecessarily. Also, before attempting to move the kit, you must spray the top of the kit with more slip solution. You don't want the squeegee to rearrange the position of the kit.
- 3 Now that you have the material moving freely, you can position the kit without a problem. Center it leaving about 1/8” between the kit and the front edge of the hood.
- 4 Now that the kit is where you want it, you can be certain that it will stay put by using the squeegee to make a number of small vertical strokes down the center of the hood. Once you have a 3” to 4” wide strip from top to bottom that is now solution free, your film will be fastened and centered, which won't allow any shifting.
- 5 One of the keys to a successful installation is using plenty of slip solution on both sides of the film. Carefully lift up each side of the film (one side at a time) up to the point that is tacked down. Spray more slip solution on the paint and adhesive side of film. This is just to insure the film won't stick until you want it to.

- 6 Once that's done, carefully return the material back onto the hood. Make certain the material is again lying flat and straight, and that the 1/8” gap remains between the kit and the hood's front edge. It's also very important that the top surface of the kit be kept wet. You want your squeegee to glide over it easily.
- 7 Now, beginning with the section that is already tacked down (the middle), you'll need to use your squeegee to smooth out the rest of the material. Make a horizontal pass to the hood's edge by letting your squeegee glide over it smoothly. Return back to the center, and overlap your first pass with the second. Move your way to the top edge of the hood with short, upward, strokes, overlapping them as you go. Do this until that quarter of the hood is smoothly covered. Following the same procedure, this time using downward strokes, begin again at the center of the section and work to the bottom edge of the hood. Continue to overlap your passes as you work. To avoid leaving air or solution bubbles caught beneath the material, you'll need to use firm pressure.
- 8 If the edges insist on lifting back up, spray the alcohol solution under the film in these areas and it will wash away the slip solution and will stick much faster. Then simply go over them with your squeegee wrapped in a paper towel. It will collect the extra moisture that is preventing the material from adhering to the surface.
- 9 Once you have completed the process for one side of your hood, continue to the other side and follow steps 5 through 8.

▶ Mirror & Fender Kits

Mirror Kit Installation Instructions

- 1 First, use your squeegee to tack down one end of the material.
- 2 By stretching the material from one side to the other, and then from top to bottom, you will be able to pull out any extra material. This will help to avoid bubbles.
- 3 After you have the material in place, begin working in the center and squeegee the remaining material to the outside edges.
- 4 To avoid any edges from lifting back up, use your paper towel wrapped squeegee to smooth out the edges.

Fender Kit Installation Instructions

- 1 Begin by aligning the fender edge with the upper edge piece. Double check to be sure you leave 1/8” gap both along the upper edge and the front edge. When applying the smaller fender pieces, the alcohol and water solution can be used without the help of the other solution.
- 2 Now, using your squeegee very gently, begin making a narrow pass on the upper edge of your fender piece. Remember not to press so hard that you move the positioning of your piece. You can begin pressing firmer as the material begins bonding with the paint. Continue until there are no bubbles remaining and all of the alcohol and water solution has been removed from under the upper edge.
- 3 Now that the material is attached from the top, using your fingers, very carefully slide the bottom edge down. Be certain you've thoroughly moistened the adhesive with the alcohol and water solution. While gently pulling the material down with one hand, use the squeegee in the other hand to firmly pass from the top edge completely through it to the bottom edge.
- 4 Complete your piece by repeating the passes with your squeegee to remove any bubbles or air pockets. When working on vehicles such as the Chevrolet or GMC pickups, that have fenders with extreme contours, you may need to wrap your squeegee with a paper towel to ease out any persistent areas.

➤ Grille Kit

Installation Instructions (if applicable)

- 1 Generally, you will find that the painted surfaces you will be applying your pieces to will be larger than the actual pieces themselves. We have designed them this way intentionally. The smaller pieces allow for stretching just the right amount and it also helps the squeegee process to work much more smoothly.

The narrow plastic pieces will stretch a little when they are removed from the liner. How it is removed from the liner will determine how much and in what way it will stretch. Since it is much easier to extend the pieces by stretching them into place than it is to cut off any excess, we have designed the pieces shorter for this purpose.

To begin, align one end of the kit edge with the edge of the grille. This type of grille kit works best beginning in this way.

- 2 Now, using just a little pressure, particularly on the narrow sections, stretch the material to the other side. Once again, squeegee the area as you've learned to do on the other sections. As the material begins to adhere to the surface, you can continue to add a little more pressure to smooth it out.

➤ Bumper, Spoiler & Airdam

Installation Instructions

The kits in this category are simple and to the point; therefore, no additional instructions are necessary. Because of the particular designs of some bumpers, however, there are some more specific techniques that can be applied to improve the convenience of application.

The following are examples of these more detailed designs.

- Chevrolet Corvette
- GMC Yukon Denali
- Porsche Boxster
- Porsche 928

- 1 Due to the unique curvatures of these designs, stretching the material is vital to obtaining a smooth result when using these kits. Wet the surface completely with the soap and water solution. Then, roll the material out onto the surface.
- 2 Using the soap and water solution, thoroughly soak both sides of the material. Then, center the material on the upper edge, remembering to leave the 1/8" gap on the bumper's edged surface. It is typical that the arc from the kit piece and the arc on the bumper edge will be mismatched, so don't become concerned. We will address that situation further into the instructions.
- 3 As in earlier steps, once positioned in place, use your squeegee to make a vertical pass down the middle to adhere the material in place.
- 4 Once the material is adhering to the surface where you made the center pass, lift the left side and rinse the soap and water solution out with the alcohol and water solution. It's important however, that you leave a little of the soap and water solution around the farthest left 10" to 15" of the kit between the material and the bumper.
- 5 After the plastic has been laid back down, use your left palm to hold down the last 10" to 15" as you stretch the material out and up a little. In this way you'll force the material to follow the arc design of the bumper.

- 6 While the material is being held in this position, beginning in the middle, use your squeegee, working your way out along the center. Working only on the upper section, continue to use your squeegee until it has adhered to the bumper and is secure. The lower portion will be worked later.
- 7 Now go back to the left 10" to 15" and lift it up to rinse out any remaining soap and water solution on this side.
- 8 Once it's been thoroughly rinsed, put the material back down being sure to align the plastic with the bumper edges. Squeegee it into place. If there are any small "fingers" that have developed or not laid flat, leave them for now.
- 9 You're now going to work the lower section. Returning to the middle and using 1" to 2" strokes, squeegee the lower section toward the left side. Continue making the passes from the middle to the left until you've reached the bottom.
- 10 For working the right side, repeat steps 4 through 9.
- 11 To finish up, use your paper towel-wrapped squeegee to double-check your work, and to go back over any edges that may have lifted up, or any bubbles or "fingers" you may have missed.

➤ Other Installations

Door Edge Guard Installation

For these instructions, please visit our website at:

<http://www.nextlevelride.com/dooredge.html>

Headlamp Installation

For these instructions, please visit our website at:

<http://www.nextlevelride.com/headlamp.html>

➤ Finishing

Finishing Touches

When finished applying all of the pieces to the car, go back and check all of the edges to make sure nothing has lifted up.

If an area has a small finger that has developed, spray some of the alcohol/water solution into the finger and squeegee again. This time though, hold your finger on the spot where you squeegeed for a minute or so and the material should stay down. Make sure the car is not washed for at least a day.

➤ Troubleshooting

I don't think the kit is cut right. It seems to be too short.

Depending on the kit you are applying, some kits are purposely designed short so that you have to stretch them into place. The purpose of this type of design is to compensate for a contour on the vehicle's surface or to allow room to pull out excess material around the edges that would otherwise be very difficult to lay down.

The analogy most commonly used when talking about applying this material to a contoured surface is: "Imagine gift-wrapping a basketball, and all of the wrinkles that you would have in the wrapping paper. Not much you can do about it, right? Now imagine wrapping the same basketball in Saran Wrap instead. Stretching the Saran Wrap allows it to take the shape of what you are stretching it over."

I can't get the material to stick to the paint in some areas. It seems like there is no adhesive left on the material.

A few things can cause this:

- 1 Not removing the wax from the vehicle's paint before starting installation.
- 2 Not washing out all of the soap/water solution with the alcohol/water solution before squeegeeing down the material.
- 3 Using too much soap or alcohol in your solutions.

How long should I wait to apply your product if my car has been repainted?

You will need to talk to your body shop and see what they recommend. The time will vary depending on the type of paint the body shop used, and whether or not the paint was baked. In any case, the time that they say you should wait to wax the paint is the same time you will need to wait to install our product.

What if I want to take my car through a car wash?

Neither high-pressure nor brush-type car washes will affect the kit once it has fully cured.

What happens when I wax my car?

You can do anything to the shield that you normally do to the rest of the car's finish. The shield will accept wax and polishes just as your paint does, and will last longer with regular applications.

What do I do if wax builds up on the edges of the kit when I wax my vehicle?

A soft, damp terrycloth towel, Q-Tip, or soft brush will remove any wax build-up that may occur without harming the kit or your paint.

➤ Installation Disclaimer:

NextLevelRide.com makes every effort to assure that all precut paint protection film kits have been test fit or otherwise checked for fit and suitability for the specific make and model advertised. Despite the fact that thousands of retail customers have been successful in installing this product themselves, a professional quality installation does require some skill on the part of the installer for which NextLevelRide.com cannot be held accountable.

NextLevelRide.com's liability is limited to providing installation instructions, advice via telephone and e-mail correspondence or through our "how to" webpage. The purchase and installation of NextLevelRide.com precut kits is done so at the buyer's risk.

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