

## GRAFITACK SIGN MAKING FILMS 200-300 SERIES



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### Description

Grafitack 200-300 series is a soft, polymeric calendered PVC film, provided with a pressure-sensitive permanent acrylic adhesive. This adhesive is protected by a high-quality silicone paper.

### Characteristics

- Finish : glossy, metallic or matt.
- High opacity.
- Very good resistance against weather influences, with an outdoor life expectancy of 5 to 7 years (metallics 3 years) on even surfaces, for vertical applications and under Central-European conditions.
- With an adjusted knife pressure, the film can be cut smoothly on all standard cutting plotters.
- Simple cleaning.

### Application

The Grafitack 200-300 series has been developed especially for indoor and outdoor applications on an even surface, e.g. for simple sign making on cars and trucks, for decoration of shop windows and advertisement boards, but also for every-day advertising.

→ *Other applications in close consultation with Grafityp !*

### Limitations

Limitations are mentioned for each product group separately in the respective technical data sheets, of which you can find the most recent version on the Grafityp website ([www.grafityp.com](http://www.grafityp.com)).

### Warranty

Please consult the General Grafitack & Graficast Warranty Certificate for detailed warranty declarations of the Grafitack sign making films. The most recent version of this warranty certificate will be available on the Grafityp website ([www.grafityp.com](http://www.grafityp.com)).

### Mounting Instructions

Grafityp provide trainings in various levels, enabling the customer to mount these films in a professional and skilled way. A detailed manual on the application of Grafitack films can be found on the Grafityp website ([www.grafityp.com](http://www.grafityp.com)).

### Before mounting

A brief preceding study will save you a lot of time and will guarantee a better end result. Always check the following points :

- What kind of surface do you want to apply the film onto, and is this surface suited for self adhesive films ?
- This film is ideal for sign making indoors as well as outdoors on an even, smooth surface.
- Check your plotter's knife pressure before cutting the complete job.

Make sure all necessary equipment and materials are ready at hand before starting the job.

Pay attention to your own safety and health. Take into account all safety prescriptions of the suppliers when using electric equipment and products that are necessary to complete the job successfully.

Make sure you comply with the legislation in your country. For some advertisement panels, a building licence is required.

## The preparation

Tip : preferably always use Grafityp films of the same kind in one job. Don't combine cast films with e.g. calendered or non-pvc films, one kind on top of the other. They have different characteristics, which may have a negative effect on the end result.

Tip : check whether certain materials are suited for wrapping. This can be done very easily. Clean the surface thoroughly and do the drop test. If you pour water on the surface, it shouldn't form drops. If drops appear on the surface, the material is not suited for wrapping with any material. A structured surface also means a reduced adhesion, which is not to be advised.

Cleaning :

- Vehicles need to be washed thoroughly at least one day before wrapping them.
- Use a simple detergent to wash the vehicle and rinse it abundantly, or go to the car wash (without wax treatment). Make sure that no dust, sand or mud stay behind in small cracks or indents. Use compressed air to dry all cracks and protection strips of the vehicle.
- After washing the vehicle, allow it to acclimatize for a night in the workshop.
- Make sure all wax and polishing products have been removed completely. In most cases they have not been removed completely from new vehicles. They have to be removed by means of industrial cleaning products or a silicone remover (isopropanol is not sufficient in this case).
- Avoid damage to rubber and plastic car parts when using some corrosive products.
- When everything is completely clean, the complete surface needs to be cleaned once again with isopropanol. Isopropanol removes all detergents that stayed behind on the surface.
- Other objects to be wrapped always need to be cleaned and degreased thoroughly before you start wrapping them.
- If you need to apply the film on sawn panels, it is of utmost importance that the sawn edges of these panels are cleaned thoroughly. Use compressed air to do so. After all, a lot of dust creeps into these edges, which is electrostatically attracted by the vinyl and thus gets in between the vinyl and the panel.

Tip : Keep your material, with the application film on top of it, flat and on top of each other, making sure it is deformed as little as possible. If you need to enroll the material, make sure it is enrolled with the application film at the outside.

## The application

Tip : make sure the workshop is dust-free, that the necessary ambient temperature has been reached, and that the job can not be complicated by direct sunlight or by a heat source. Also make sure the floor is completely clean, as the vinyl gets statically loaded during the application process, thus attracting dust very easily.

The vinyls are always applied dry.

Run a couple of tests first. They can save you a lot of work. Apply a test strip and check whether it sticks well enough.

The tools :

- Squeegees
- Cutting knife
- Heat gun
- Extension cord
- Sufficient light
- Roll of tape
- Electric current
- Meter, felt-tip, pencil,...

The preparation :

- Place the vinyl (with its backing paper) on the surface. Use paper tape or a pencil crayon to do so.
- Always avoid cutting in the surface. This can cause scratches.
- Apply some reference points where vinyl and surface meet, so you can easily place the vinyl at its exact position again.

Tip : In case of extremely big signs, it is often easier to cut your design in between lines or characters after you have defined their exact position.

The application of the vinyl :

- Remove the backing paper from the film.
- Position the film without folds against the reference points you applied earlier.
- A plastic squeegee is used for rubbing the film if it comes with a mounting film.
- Rub the vinyl smoothly by means of the squeegee. Make sure that the air between the object and the vinyl can always escape.
- A detailed manual for the application of films, provided with an application films, can be found on [www.grafityp.com](http://www.grafityp.com) (Download – Manuals).

Tip : never lay a felt squeegee on the floor. Sand will creep into it and you will make scratches on the film the next time you use it.

## The finishing

The exact removal of the mounting film determines the quality of the end result to a large extent.

- Allow the film to adhere to its surface for as long as possible before removing the mounting film.
- Remove the mounting film under an angle of 180°. In this way, the pulling strength on the vinyl will be a lot less, and less air bubbles will be sucked under the vinyl.
- Small air bubbles will disappear automatically after a certain period of time. Larger air bubbles on even surfaces need to be punctured to allow the air to escape.

## After the job has been completed

Very often, the customer comes back to pick up his "unmissable order" as soon as possible. Nevertheless, it is of utmost importance that the film gets the time to get used to its new surface. Therefore always try to have the job finished 1 day in advance, to avoid sudden temperature changes.

## Cleaning and maintenance

Once the film has reached its optimal adhesive strength, the surface can be cleaned under normal conditions. Please take the following guidelines into consideration :

- Don't use any scouring cleaning agents.
- Don't use any cleaning agents that contain strong solvents or alcohol.
- Use cleaning agents with a pH value between 3 and 11.
- Brushes of a car wash can leave behind scratches on the film.

Dirt that is hard to remove, such as dead insects, resin, etc... needs to be removed immediately. The best result is achieved with warm water and a soapy solution. Don't use any aggressive or scouring cleaning agents.

## Removal

The Grafitack 200-300 series can be removed a lot easier than a cast film, thanks to its thickness.

The Grafitack 200-300 series has been developed especially not to leave behind any glue residues when removing it. If you wish to remove the vinyl, we advise you to heat it with a heat gun. Pull off the film under an angle of +90°. If any glue stays behind on the surface, you can remove it with isopropanol.

Tip : if any glue residues stay behind, it is often because the vinyl is too warm and the adhesive is too cold. Just wait for a moment until the heat has reached the area between the adhesive layer and the paintwork, and things will become a lot easier. You will find the right balance between heating and removing the vinyl after some practice.

## Product range

Grafitack 200-300 films are available in the following colours :

Reference	Colour
1210*	White glossy
1240	Light yellow glossy
1241	Sahara yellow glossy
1273*	Sunflower yellow glossy
1265	Signal yellow glossy
1328	Orange glossy
1330*	Orange red glossy
1338	Red orange glossy
1331*	Signal red glossy
1332*	Tomato red glossy
1268	Dark red glossy
1229	Lemon green glossy
1227	Grass green glossy
1228	Green glossy
1224*	Medium green glossy
1219	Dark green glossy
1247	Mint glossy
1246	Aqua green glossy
1214	Light blue glossy
1222	Sky blue glossy
1260	Azure blue glossy
1261	Gentian blue glossy
1215	Medium blue glossy
1244	Blue glossy
1266	Brilliant blue glossy
1262*	Royal blue glossy

Reference	Colour
1267	Evening blue glossy
1223	Dark blue glossy
1216	Night blue glossy
1236	Pink glossy
1337	Fuchsia glossy
1248	Magenta glossy
1333	Burgundy glossy
1245	Lilac glossy
1238	Purple glossy
1211	Light beige glossy
1212	Dark beige glossy
1329	Orange brown glossy
1220	Brown glossy
1242	Light grey glossy
1243	Dark grey glossy
1263	Steel grey glossy
1264	Granite glossy
1221*	Black glossy
1217	Blue grey metallic
1334	Silver matt
1336	Slate grey metallic
1335	Gold matt
1218	Anthracite metallic
1225**	Silver chrome
1226**	Gold chrome

\* Also available with Air Escape technology

\*\* Polyester film – only for indoor applications

## Product Characteristics

A detailed overview of the product characteristics can be found on the respective technical data sheets, of which you can always find the most recent version on the Grafityp website ([www.grafityp.com](http://www.grafityp.com)).

## Storage Instructions

All Grafitack materials always need to be stored in their original packing and with the original protection flanges (and preferably stored vertically).

In order to avoid any loss of quality, the Grafitack materials should also be stored in suitable conditions, that is at a temperature between 10 and 20°C and a relative humidity of 50 %.

Under these conditions the Grafitack materials can be stored up to two years.

## Remarks

- In order to achieve an optimal result, we advise you to clean the surface with isopropanol and/or use a low-tack application tape !
- As the colour of the film can differ slightly for each production run, we advise you not to use films with different batch numbers in one single and critical job. The number to be taken into consideration for this purpose consists of the first 5 number of the 7-digit batch number.

## Important

The information mentioned in this product bulletin is based upon tests that were executed by Grafityp and that we consider to be reliable. The information always represents an average, a minimum or a maximum value, and should be considered as such. It is only given for your information, and does not give any guarantee. Grafityp cannot be held responsible for any damage, either direct or indirect, resulting from the use of the film. It is up to the user to decide whether or not the product is suited for his particular application.

## Technical Service

If you have any technical questions with regard to the Grafitac films you can always contact our technical department :

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