

GRAFITACK SIGN MAKING FILMS ETCHED GLASS SERIES



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Description

Grafitack Etched Glass films are sandblast-effect films, some of them having a certain structure, with a choice of monomeric, polymeric, cast and pvc-free characteristics.

Characteristics

- Finish : sandblast effect and structured sandblast effect.
- Very good resistance against weather influences, with an outdoor life expectancy of 5 to 7 years for polymeric and cast films on an even surface (except for TR114, 1 year) and 2 to 3 years for monomeric films (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

With Grafitack Etched Glass films you create the most magnificent decorations on mirrors, glass doors or shop windows, or you bring more privacy to bath rooms, offices, etc...

The Grafitack SBP and SBT films can be used for making self adhesive stencils for sandblasting in glass, stone or wood.

→ *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).

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).

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).

Before mounting

The Grafitack Etched Glass films offer many more possibilities than just "closing a window". You can perfectly combine various materials with each other. A retro design is just as easy to implement than a hypermodern design. Dozens of combination options distinguish your design from another. Need more discretion in the office, bathroom or kitchen ? Do you not want direct sunlight in the room ? Troubled by neighbors sneaking in ? Then use the Grafitack Etched Glass films. A combination of these films provides surprising effects.

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

- Are the windows clean ? The smallest paint spatter or grain of sand must be removed before applying the film.
- Are there still traces of silicone on the edges ?

- Where is the sun when you have to do the windows ? Direct sunlight makes the window too hot to apply the film without any problems.
- Application at the inside or the outside ? A shop window where bicycles are parked against, will get scratched.

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.

The preparation

Tip : preferably always use Grafityp films of the same kind in one job. Don't combine cast films with e.g. calendared 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.

Cleaning :

- Clean the windows thoroughly.
- Feel with your hands that there are no small particles left on the window. You can easily remove these with a spatula or paint scraper.
- Make sure that window sills, door sills and the floor just below the window are also washed and dust-free.
- Disassemble handles. That will take some extra preparation time, but the end result will be better and faster.
- Degrease with isopropanol.

The application

Tip : Leave a space of one centimeter between the film and the window frame. This way you avoid sticking to the silicone edge of the window, something that would only cause problems later.

Tip : make sure the workshop is dust-free. The tiniest grain of dirt looks much bigger when it gets stuck between the film and the window.

The vinyls are always applied dry when a mounting film is used. Large pieces without mounting film are best applied wet (soap suds 1 liter of water, 10 drops of baby shampoo).

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 window. Use paper tape or a pencil crayon to do so.
- Always avoid cutting in the glass. This can cause scratches. If you really have to cut, always use stainless steel knives.
- Apply some reference points where vinyl and window meet, so you can easily place the vinyl at its exact position again.

The application of the vinyl :

- Remove the backing paper from the film.
- Position the film without folds against the reference points you applied earlier.
- 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 (Download – Manuals).

Tip : removing mounting film immediately after wet adhesion is not recommended. If necessary, let everything dry for 24 hours before removing the mounting film.

Tip : with wet adhesion you do not only wet the windows, it is also easy if you wet the film on the back. The spray bottle with which you normally spray weeds can serve here if you have to spray a lot.

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.

Tip : watch out for fingerprints in the adhesive layer ! You can see them on both sides of the window and it is difficult to make them disappear. Also wet your fingers.

The finishing

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

- 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.
- Cut the vinyl where two pieces of glass are joining each other. In this way you avoid dirty stripes and water getting under the vinyl when cleaning the windows.

Cleaning and maintenance

After application, the surface can immediately be cleaned with a dust cloth or with a damp cloth.

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.

Removal

The Graftack Etched Glass films have been developed especially not to leave behind any glue residues when removing them. If you wish to remove the vinyl, we advise you to heat it with a heat gun. Avoid heating the vinyl for too long at the same spot, as this could cause the glass to crack. 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 glass, and things will become a lot easier. You will find the right balance between heating and removing the vinyl after some practice.

If applied on glass or plexi, all possible glue residues can easily be removed. You just have to moisten the glue residues with soap water. Leave this to soak in for a couple of minutes, and then chip it off by means of a steel scraper (also used for removing paint stains).

Product range

Graftack Etched Glass films are available in the following colours :

Reference	Colour
TR100*	Grey
TR101**	Silver
TR102**	White frosted
TR103**	Silver
TR111**	Silver air escape
TR112**	Sparkle air escape
TR113**	Champagne air escape
TR114**	Gold air escape

Reference	Colour
EFTR01***	Silver
EFTRx01***	Silver air escape
TR120****	Silk road
TR121****	Galactica
SBP*****	Blue sandblast stencil
SBT*****	Beige sandblast stencil

* monomeric ** polymeric *** pvc-free **** cast structured ***** removable

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).

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 Grafitack films you can always contact our technical department :

Mr. Richard van Ochten
Centrum-Zuid 1539
3530 Houthalen (Belgium)
Tel. : +32-(0)11-600850
e-mail : tech.sup@grafityp.com
website : www.grafityp.com