

## GRAFITACK SIGN MAKING FILMS REMOVABLE SERIES



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### Description

Grafitack Removable series is a soft, monomeric calendared PVC film, provided with a pressure-sensitive removable acrylic adhesive. This adhesive is protected by a high-quality silicone paper.

### Characteristics

- Finish : white glossy or black glossy.
- High opacity.
- Very good resistance against weather influences, with an outdoor life expectancy of 1 to 2 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 Removable films have been developed especially for indoor applications (such as sign making at shops, at trade shows, etc...) and for short-term outdoor applications. Thanks to their removable adhesive, these films can be removed again with ease, without leaving behind any glue residues.

→ *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 (for short-term promotional indoor and outdoor applications).
- 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 :

- The surface needs to be cleaned thoroughly.
- Watch out for damage, caused by 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

Grafitack Removable films can easily be removed without leaving behind any glue by using a heat gun, on condition that the life span mentioned has not expired yet.

If the life span of the film has expired, the adhesive can be removed with isopropanol.

If the film is removed from an underlying film, it is possible that the underlying film gets damaged.

## Product range

Grafitack Removable films are available in the following colours :

Reference	Colour (glossy)
R02	Black glossy
R09	White glossy

## 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 Grafitack films you can always contact our technical department :

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