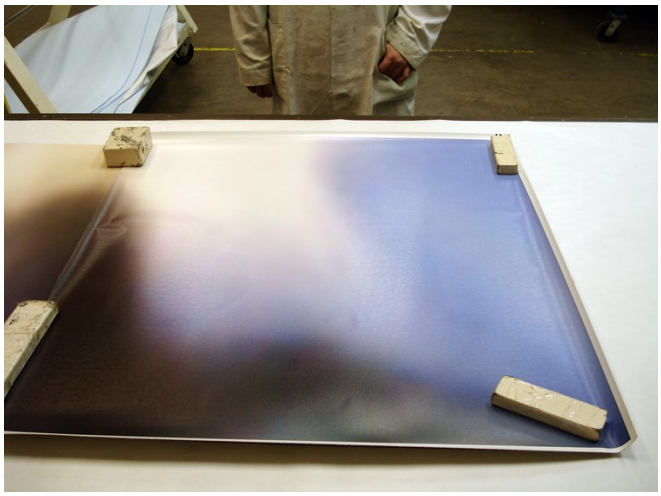
RAILDEC-RP Application Guide

RAILDEC-RP is a flexible, pressure sensitive adhesive (PSA) backed, flame-barrier decorative laminate for covering or re-covering a variety of flat or simply contoured transit vehicle interior parts. The PSA on RAILDEC-RP sticks very well to all surfaces, including low surface energy anti-graffiti surfaces such as Tedlar® polyvinyl fluoride capped RAILDEC-SF LT, RAILDEC-TG, and RAILDEC-TE. It is recommended to apply a RAILDEC-RP laminate slightly larger than the part to be covered, and trim the edges net to the part after application. The following pictorial shows and discusses this preferred process.

Step 1: First clean all dirt, particles, lint, and etceteras from the surface of the part to be covered or re-covered, using water or a water-based cleaner. Second, clean the surface with a solvent that will dissolve and remove any oils, waxes, adhesives, paints, and etceteras that may be on the surface. Strong solvents such as methylethylketone (MEK), acetone, xylene, or methylene chloride, can be used on a Tedlar® surface, as well as commercially available adhesive, paint, and decal removers. Other surfaces should be tested for solvent resistance before cleaning, and use weaker solvents such as isopropyl alcohol, naptha, or petroleum distillates (paint thinnner) if unsure about the solvent resistance of the surface.

Step 2: Lay the RAILDEC-RP on top of the part to be covered, and position it exactly where it is to be bonded to the part. Place weights on top of the RAILDEC-RP to keep it flat and in position. Make sure the RAILDEC-RP overlaps the part sufficiently for trimming flush later.



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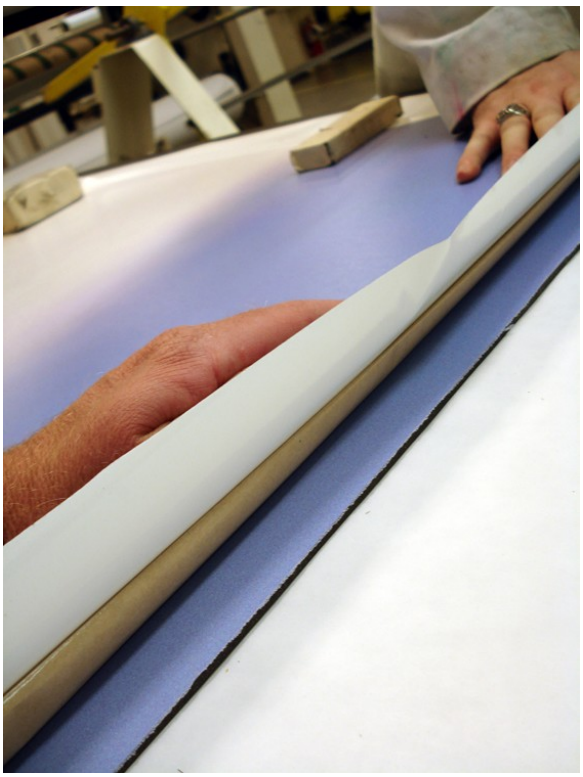
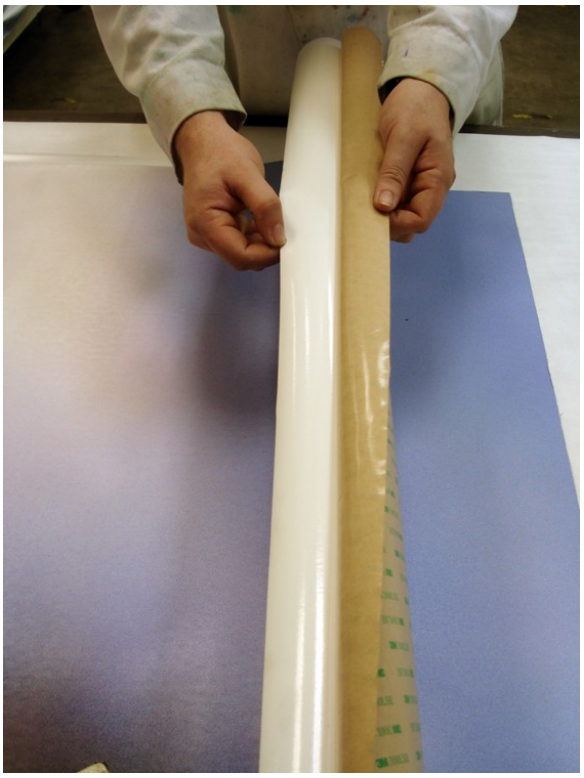
Step 3: With the RAILDEC-RP laminate still in position and weighted down, lift the front edge of the material and peel the backing paper back about two inches.





Step 4: Fold the backing paper under the laminate, and while maintaining alignment carefully roll the exposed edge of the RAILDEC-RP toward the part.

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Step 6: With the front edge squarely bonded to the part, start pulling the paper away from the adhesive on the back-side of the RAILDEC-RP laminate.

Step 5: Bond the RAILDEC-RP to the part by applying hand pressure, preferably from the center out or from one side to the other to avoid a wrinkle of material in the center.

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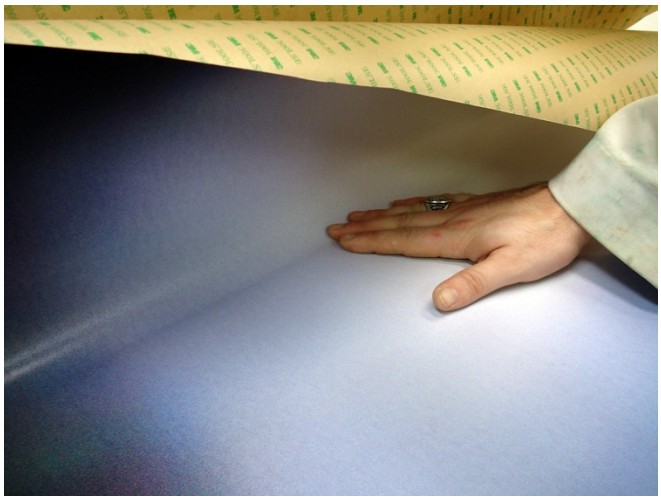
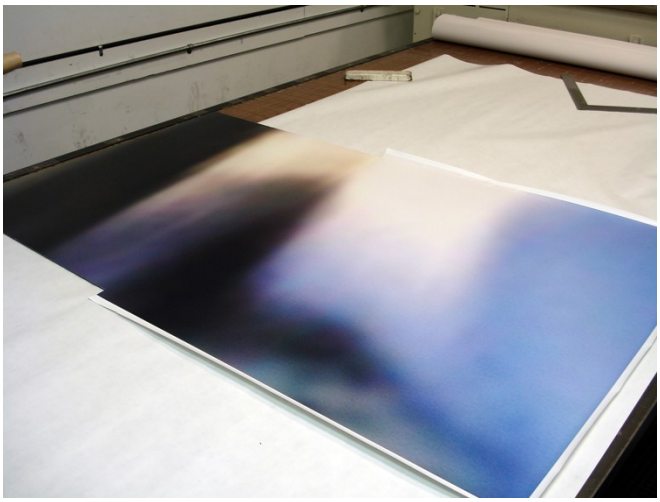
Step 7: While pulling the backing paper away, apply hand pressure in a back and forth sweeping motion, or use a roller, to bond the RAILDEC-RP to the surface of the part. This process works best with two people, one pulling the paper, and one sweeping the part surface.



Step 8: Use complete and consistent sweeping of the surface in order to avoid trapping air between the RAILDEC-RP laminate and the part, which will cause visible bubbles in the surface. If a bubble of air is trapped, poke a tiny hole with a needle through the RAILDEC-RP in the center of the bubble, and press the air out by hand or with a roller, working from the outside of the bubble to the center.



Step 9: The re-covered part is ready for trimming.

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Step 10: Find the edge of the part beneath the RAILDEC-RP laminate and start to cut it flush to the part with a sharp knife.

Step 11: Hold the knife slightly angled inward against the part to ensure a clean flush cut. Trim completely around the part in this manner.

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Step 12: The finished re-covered part is ready for further processing or installation.

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