



**ARLON**

# **INSTALLATION GUIDE**

**Interior Floor Graphics**

*Technical Services  
October 2019*



# Interior Floor Graphics

## INSTALLATION GUIDE

### *Tools Needed*

APPLICATION TOOLS	USES
Squeegee with Felt Tip	For applying media without damaging the graphic
Felt Block Squeegee	For applying graphics on carpet
GENERAL TOOLS	USES
Masking Tape	Positioning the graphic
9mm Snap-off blades	Trimming excess material
Microfiber Towels	For cleaning the substrate
Wrap Knife	To cut the release liner
Measuring Tape	Positioning and alignment
Rigid Scraper	To scrape off 3D contaminants

### *Indoor Floor Application Surfaces*

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- Waxed vinyl flooring
  - Sealed concrete
  - Marble
  - Ceramic tile
  - Sealed wood
  - Terrazzo
  - Low-pile commercial-grade carpet
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### PREPARATION



RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	PURPOSE
<b>1. Laminate the graphic with Arlon Series 3220 Gloss or Series 3420 Gloss</b>	Series 3220G and Series 3420G are UL 410 approved for slip resistance as floor graphics material.
<b>2. Graphics should be designed with rounded corners</b>	Rounded corners will help prevent lifting of the graphic due to scuffing. Sharp corners are more susceptible to lifting, thus creating a hazard.
<b>3. Inspect the condition of the flooring/carpet</b>	Identify the construction of the flooring material and check to see if there is a floor finish. Ensure that the floor finish is bonded well to the floor surface. If the floor finish is not well-bonded to the surface, the graphic may prematurely lift or the floor finish will be damaged upon graphic removal.
<b>4. Check for media compatibility to the floor surface</b> This is to ensure that the media will adhere well to the floor surface prior to beginning the job.	Perform a media compatibility test by applying a sample of the media, roughly 12"x 12" (30cm x 30cm), to the floor and allow it to dwell for 24 hours. After, remove the media and evaluate the bond of the graphic to the floor surface.
<b>5. Use commercial detergent solutions and water to clean the surface prior to installation</b> Refer to the cleaning instructions for your specific surface for the recommended cleaning solution. Ensure the surface is adequately dry prior to installation.	This removes any dirt or grime that may be present on the surface of the floor which can cause premature adhesion failures. <i>Tip: Clean an area that is 4"-6" (10cm- 15cm) inches larger than the graphic.</i>
<b>6. Final cleaning to remove any grease or oil with a 50:50 IPA/water solution and a lint free cloth</b>	Using IPA/water solution as the final cleaning step will help remove any residues or oils on the surface of the floor leaving it as clean as possible before installation.
<b>7. For carpet applications, thoroughly vacuum carpets prior to installation</b>	This will help remove contaminants within the carpet that may affect adhesion of the graphic to the carpet.



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### INSTALLATION

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	PURPOSE
<p><b>1. Use a hard squeegee with a lubricated protected edge</b> Equip your squeegee with a felt sleeve or buffer edge to protect the graphic. While installing, consistently lubricate the squeegee edge with water.</p>	<p>Installation of floor graphics requires firm pressure. A lubricated protected edge hard squeegee will prevent damage (e.g. scratches) to the surface of the graphic during install.</p>
<p><b>2. Anchoring</b></p> <p><b>Top Hinge</b> Position and align the graphic. Use masking tape to secure the top of the graphic to the floor. Lift the vinyl from the floor and using the wrap knife, cut liner to expose 1" - 2" (2.5cm - 5cm) inches of the adhesive across the width. Squeegee down the exposed adhesive to tack down the film. Remove the masking tape. Then, expose the area above tacked down area and apply. Use one hand to keep the graphic taut and with the other apply the graphic to the floor. Repeat removing the liner and applying down the graphic.</p>	<p><b>Top Hinge:</b> works best for graphics that are much taller than wide</p> 
<p><b>Center Hinge</b> Use masking tape to position the graphic onto the floor and apply a piece of tape down the vertical center of the graphic, ensure to keep the graphic smooth and taut throughout. Lift the vinyl and using the wrap knife, cut the liner to expose a 1" - 2" (2.5cm - 5cm) width down the vertical of the liner. Tack down the exposed adhesive. Starting on one side, remove the liner from the graphic. Hold the graphic taut with one hand and apply with the other hand moving outwards from the center of the graphic. Repeat the application for the remaining side of the graphic.</p>	<p><b>Center Hinge:</b> works best for panels that are much wider than tall</p> 
<p><b>3. Use butt seaming for graphics that require more than 1 panel</b></p>	<p>Overlaps are not recommended due to the increase of trip hazard.</p>
<p><b>4. Repositioning</b> If repositioning is needed, perform as soon as possible, and peel off the film slow and steady.</p>	<p>Repositioning as soon as possible prevents the film from adhering to the surface and makes it easier to adjust the vinyl.</p>
<p><b>5. Install at an ambient temperature of 60°F - 90°F (16°C - 32°C) for ease of install</b></p>	<p>Installation outside of the recommended ambient temperature range may lead to a difficult install or poor graphic adhesion to the floor surface.</p>



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PRACTICES TO AVOID	PURPOSE
<p><b>AVOID placing floor graphics near floor surfaces that are inclined to get wet</b> Place graphics far away from potential wet sources. Clean any liquid or spills on the graphic immediately.</p>	<p>Wet floor graphics may become slippery and precautions should be taken to avoid injuries due to slipping.</p>
<p><b>AVOID placing floor graphics in pathways of forklift or heavy machinery</b></p>	<p>Traffic from forklift or heavy machinery is likely to damage floor graphics, shortening the lifespan of the graphic.</p>
<p><b>AVOID installing floor graphics on cracked, uneven, or loose tile</b></p>	<p>Installing on uneven or loose tile is an increased trip hazard and damage may occur to the tile upon removal of the graphic.</p>
<p><b>AVOID aligning the edges of the graphics along grout lines</b></p>	<p>Grout lines are more difficult to adhere to. Therefore, avoid placing graphic edges on grout lines for best adhesion to the floor.</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Figure 1</p> <p>Figure 2</p> </div>

### FINISHING/POST-INSTALLATION

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	PURPOSE
<p><b>1. Re-squeegee the edges and corner of the graphic with firm pressure</b> Squeegee along the outer 6" (15cm) of the graphic using firm, overlapping strokes.</p>	<p>This will help promote adhesion of the graphic to the surface and prevent against lifting at the weak point of the graphic.</p>

PRACTICES TO AVOID	BENEFITS
<p><b>AVOID standing or walking on graphics up to 8 hours after installation</b></p>	<p>This allows time for the adhesive to bond to the floor.</p>
<p><b>DO NOT clean or wax graphic for at least 24 hours after application</b></p>	<p>This allows time for the graphic to build a firm adhesion to the floor.</p>



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### MAINTENANCE

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	PURPOSE
<p><b>1. Regularly Wash and Dust</b> Use cleaning solutions to remove dirt and grime from the vinyl. Adequately dry the graphic after cleaning.</p>	<p>To keep the vinyl looking its best for the life of the wrap. Recommended solutions: mild soapy water.</p>

### REMOVAL

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	PURPOSE
<p><b>1. Starting from a corner of the graphic, pull the graphics towards you, away from the surface at a 70-90° degree angle for the easiest removal</b></p>	<p>This angle is best practice to make removal quicker and easier.</p>
<p><b>2. Cut and remove in 6" inch width sections at a time</b> This will assist in removal of large floor graphics.</p>	<p>Smaller sections require less force to peel and require less force to remove.</p>

PRACTICES TO AVOID	PURPOSE
<p><b>DO NOT snap up vinyl</b> Remove the vinyl steadily at a controlled speed.</p>	<p>Removing vinyl quickly may cause vinyl breakage or cause adhesive delamination.</p>