



## **BEST PRACTICES FOR INSTALLING WINDSHIELD GARD®**

General practices that are applicable to all windshields.

### **I. Installation Environment**

The fundamental principle is that the driver of a vehicle with Windshield Gard will have to look through the film when driving. For that reason, the film must be as clear as possible, meaning that debris should not be caught between the film and the windshield glass.

- The best installation location is indoors in a location that is not subject to breezes or other significant air movement
- There should be no activity going on near the Windshield Gard installation location that puts any kind of debris onto the vehicle that is being installed with Windshield Gard.
- It is a common practice to surround the front part of the vehicle with a tent-like structure so as to minimize the opportunity for debris from getting near the installation area.

## II. Tools

Item	Objective	Suggestions
Installing Squeegee: 5-inch Fusion handle with Angled Clear Maxx Squeegee Blade	Soft-bladed squeegee with longer handle that allows for proper pressure on the film. Blade conforms to the curvature of the glass	5-inch Fusion Handle: Blade:
Cleaning Squeegee: Unger handle with 6-inch squeegee and channel	Glass cleaning is easy and quick with this squeegee	Unger Handle: 6-squeegee & Channel
White Scrub Pad: two each, one for using with isopropyl alcohol and one to use with cleaning solution	Preferred scrub pad because it is calibrated properly so as to not scratch glass.	
91% Isopropyl Alcohol	Used to strip the windshield of any ceramic coatings or other similar material that might be on the windshield	
Cleaning Solution / Slip Solution	Johnson Baby Shampoo and Filtered Water. Used in the same proportions as with tint films in the same geographic area	In warmer situations above 85° F, more soap may be needed; conversely, in colder situations, less soap may be required
Stainless Steel 1-inch Scraper	Used to break off debris that is stuck on the windshield	
Spray Bottle, 3 each	Used to spray the cleaning/slip solution	
Stainless Steel Knife	Used to do any trimming that might be necessary and avoid damaging the glass	
Teflon Hard Card wrapped in a Micro Fiber Cloth	Used to seal the edges	
Heat Gun	Used to seal the edges	

70% isopropyl alcohol/ water solution	Used when sealing the edges	
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### III. Installation

Step 1: Clean major dirt and grime off the windshield

Tools to use: White Scrub Pad and Cleaning/Slip Solution

Objective: Remove major dirt and grime from the windshield

Process: Clean the glass, Clean the side columns, Clean the roof near the windshield

Time Required: Depends on the amount of dirt on the windshield.  
Could be 10 minutes

STEP 1A: Handling the windshield wipers - Secure the windshield wipers away from the surface of the windshield so they do not impede access to the windshield. If you have difficulties with this step, contact Ed Owens or David Jensen at the numbers listed below for advice.

STEP 2: Remove Ceramic Coating and/or surface sealants

Tools to Use: 91% alcohol solution and separate white scrub pad

Objective: Remove any kind of chemical on the windshield that might interfere with the film adhesion

Time Required: 5 minutes of hard, thorough scrubbing

STEP 3: Clean glass again

Tools: Same as Step 1

Objective: Make sure that no isopropyl alcohol is on the windshield

Time Required: Less than 5 minutes

#### STEP 4: Wet Check

Tools: Slip solution, Install Squeegee, Film with liner on  
Objective: Make sure that the film fits the windshield glass  
Process: Put rolled up film in a protected area

Clean windshield using the same process as above

Make sure that the Install tools are in an easily accessible area

Have spray bottles on both sides of the windshield, within easy reach

Time: 2 minutes, approximately. No time to waste because installing the film needs to be done on a clear surface

#### STEP 5: Removing the liner

Tools: (This is a 2-person job) Cleaning/slip solution spray

Process: one person holds the two short corners of the film, liner side facing away from assistant.

Installer sprays the liner side of the film very heavily

Installer sprays the fingers of the assistant who is holding the corners so that the oils that are on the assistant's fingers does not get on the adhesive of the film.

Installer sprays his/her own fingers for the same purpose

Installer peels one of the top corners of the liner away from the film

Installer removes entire liner from the film. This must be done quickly and carefully so that the film is not creased and nothing touches the adhesive layer of the film

If not already done, windshield wipers should be lifted off the windshield

#### STEP 6: Placing the film on the windshield

Tools: None

Process: Spray the windshield again

Installer carefully grabs the corners of the film opposite those that the assistant has

They lift the film over the top of the wipers and place it on the windshield, adhesive down

Installer makes sure that the film is positioned properly on the windshield

## STEP 7 Anchor the film to the windshield

Tools: Installing Squeegee

Process: With film on glass wet outside of film with slip solution

Time: While holding film in place use your hands to work out and large air pockets from under the film

Make sure film is aligned on glass, with squeegee lock the center of the film in place with 2 or 3 overlapping vertical strokes, be sure that no air is left under the film and film has not shifted

## STEP 8 Squeegeeing the moisture out that is between the film and the glass

Tools: Installing Squeegee

Process: Start on one side of vehicle, mist film with slip solution, use squeegee and overlapping strokes to remove air and water

Medium pressure on squeegee, complete this step on entire glass, then repeat 3 more times while increasing amount of pressure on squeegee.

Things to watch out for: Make sure film has not shifted, overlapping strokes during squeegee process is critical - no air / water pockets left

## STEP 9 Sealing the Edges

Tools: Heat gun, hard card with micro-fiber cloth wrapped around the edge

Process: With heat gun, warm edges of film, keep heat gun moving as to not burn film or vehicle weather-proofing seal

With hard card wrapped, apply pressure to film pushing moisture out off the edge

Repeat on all edges 2 times

## STEP 10 Clean Up

Use window cleaner and lightly mist film, use clean micro fiber to remove Clean side pillars and inspect film for and lifting edges, use heat gun and seal if lifting edge is found

STEP 11 Clear-X install

Process: Use 2 or 3 nickel sized dollops per side of the windshield, apply with clean micro fiber let sit and haze

Make sure to keep ClearX off edge of film for new installs

After ClearX has been allowed to sit for a few minutes, remove haze with clean micro fiber

STEP 12 Clear-X install

Advice to Customers (Owners of vehicles with Windshield Gard newly installed)

Give the film a couple of days to cure before taking the vehicle into a challenging environment

Keep the vehicle out of the rain for a day or two

Do not take the vehicle to a car wash for a day or two

Points of Contact:

Ed Owens: Master Installer, 916-804-6607

David Jensen, ClearPlex Product Manager 408-607-3849

