

## VINYL SIGNMAKING Study Guide

### 3 types of Vinyl Film

- 1) **Cast** – Durable, conformable
  - What does conformable mean?
  - List 4 reasons why CAST vinyl is a good choice:
  - Is Cast vinyl good for indoor or outdoor use?
  - Why is it called CAST?
- 2) **Calendared**
  - How is Calendared Vinyl made?
  - What is memory?
  - What happens when calendared vinyl is exposed to extreme heat and cold?
  - Is it cheaper or less expensive than Cast vinyl?
  - Is it made for indoor or outdoor use?
- 3) **Specialty**
  - Name 3 types of specialty vinyl
  - How long will holographic vinyl hold up outdoors?
  - SIGNGOLD- What is it made from? Where is it used? How long does it last?

### Substrates

- What is the definition of SUBSTRATE?
- Give 5 examples of substrates
- prefab substrates are called what?
- corrugated plastic is also called what?
- What is the most popular of substrates?
- How much revenue comes from this substrate?

### Tools

#### CLEANING TOOLS

- List 3 types of cleaners
- Why do you need the correct type of cleaner for your substrate?
- **What is Adhesive failure?**

#### PREMASK TOOLS

List the premask tools (5)

#### POSITIONING TOOLS

List 3 positioning tools

#### APPLICATION TOOLS

List 5 application tools

### PREPARING GRAPHIC – 3 STEPS

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

## WEEDING

- **What is weeding?**
- PROBLEMS – due to cutter or due to vinyl?
- If problems weeding - check settings and adjustments
- List 2 adjustments to make
- What is liftoff?
- Where can you go for help?

Techniques for weeding:

- Weed letters from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.
- Work in \_\_\_\_\_. Use software to make border or use \_\_\_\_\_ to trim
- Remove by pulling at \_\_\_\_\_ angle. Pull up and \_\_\_\_\_.
- What fonts are NOT good for vinyl?

## PREPARATION of SUBSTRATES

- Surface conditions and cleanliness are important
- Cleaners should not leave what?
- What is the most common cleaner?
- Vehicles need cleaner that removes what?
- What can you clean Sign blanks with?
- Temp – optimum is \_\_\_\_\_ degrees.
- If too hot, what can you do?
- WHAT PROBLEM DOES NOT MAKE REPEAT BUSINESS?
- What can be used to warm surface if too cold?
- **What is tack?**

## PREMASK – applying \_\_\_\_\_ to graphic.

What does application tape do for your graphic?

To begin you need what 3 things?

LIST STEPS TO PREMASK

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

## POSITIONING GRAPHICS

Use **REGISTRATION MARKS** – what are they?

1. measure substrate from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
2. Place substrate on work table
3. Use **stabilo pencil** – what is this?
4. Make center marks on substrate in what area?
5. Mark center of graphic on premask. - make sure to measure GRAPHIC, not PREMASK
6. Match \_\_\_\_\_ of substrates and graphic

## HINGING

Center hinge – most commonly used method

STEPS FOR CENTER HINGE

1. position graphic on substrate
2. tack graphic with masking tape on corners
3. Put vertical tape down center to make “hinge”
4. Start with right side. (if right handed)
5. Lift end toward center and remove liner.
6. Cut backing at center
7. Starting from center, squeegee vinyl to substrates
8. Lift left side and cut
9. squeegee vinyl again
10. Make sure to hold squeegee at 45 degree angle
11. remove app tape – start at top corner. pull firmly toward self keeping tape at 180 degree (180 degree angle keeps from getting bubbles)

Horizontal Hinge – used for long graphics, large graphics that need to be applied in sections  
**STEPS FOR HORIZONTAL HINGE**

1. tack corners with tape
2. masking tape lengthwise across top of graphic
3. remove tape from corners.
4. cut into sections
5. start at right, flip up section and remove liner
6. Squeegee each section with downward strokes. Re-squeegee whole thing
7. remove ap tape at 180 degree angle.
8. re-squeegee with teflon sleeve to protect vinyl from marking or marring.

#### **REPAIRS - check for flaws**

- How can you remove **bubbles**?
- **What is a tunnel?**
- What is a flute?
- How can you remove tunnels and flutes?
- What is the use of a teflon squeegee protector?
- What will a squeegee do to vinyl with out the protector?