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► How to Install on Deep Channels: Using the Cut and Drop Method

Commercial and fleet graphics are probably the biggest sources of income for most wrap shops. These projects are typically repeat businesses and high in volume. However, they can also be very risky and costly if failures arise. So in addition to choosing the right products for the project, the right techniques must be used to ensure that the graphics will last.

The vehicles in commercial and fleet projects tend to be cargo vans such as Ford Transit, Mercedes-Benz Sprinter, and Nissan NV. The side and rear windows of these vans instead of glass may have recessed or 'inset' windows. You can use the technique described in TIP #38 - Placing the Stretch Away from High Risk Areas or TIP #49 - Using Inlay Strips but this method, Cut and Drop, can be the fastest technique you can use for both cast and calendered wrap films.



PRE-INSTALLATION

1. This technique will require cutting away section of the wrap so make sure that the customer approves and signs how the end result will look first.
2. Collaborate with the wrap graphic designer to move critical information away from areas to be cut.

INSTALLATION

1. Proceed with installing the graphic on the vehicle and leave at least 4 inches of bridged film on the recessed or inset areas.
2. With a WrapGlove™, apply the graphic about 1/8-inch beyond the body line.
3. Before trimming, make sure that the film's surface is relatively cool (less than 85°F) and cut the film with the blade parallel to the body line as a guide.
4. Squeegee the area that was previously bridging over the recessed or inset area.
5. If the film is bunching up along the turn, trim the excess film that folds over the lowest part of the channel. See the dotted line shown in the image.
6. Properly post heat the edges and reapply pressure.

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