

Bike-Quip: ST1300 Installation Guidelines - Reflective kits

PLEASE be certain of reading ALL of the following BEFORE commencing work.

If you are experienced in applying this type of metallic reflective material – then you will no doubt appreciate the value and importance of these guidelines. You will also be aware of how very 'aggressive' the adhesive is on this material and how easy it is to 'get it wrong' if great care is not taken at ALL times.

PREPARATION:

Thoroughly clean the area/s of the bike to which the graphic/s are to be applied.

Make a smooth and clean stable surface available on which you can work. You may find it useful to use the worktops in your kitchen. Alternatively, you can create such a surface using e.g. plastic laminate, Contiboard, smooth hardboard but, be sure it is suitably stable.

'Tools' required:-

Small spray bottle, credit card, soft cloth, tissues, scissors.

The type of bottle which is ideal is one that creates a 'misty spray' rather than a 'jet'. A 'misty spray' adheres better!

Fill this bottle with cold water and add a tiny drop of quality washing-up liquid to it.

The credit card is going to be used to smooth on the graphics. The soft cloth is to place along the edge of the credit card, so that you don't damage the graphics.

The tissues are for mopping up any excess water from the area on which you are placing the graphics.

PLEASE NOTE: If any speck of dirt is allowed to remain between the bodywork of the bike and the graphic/s – then it will show upon completion of the job! Be certain your hands are clean.

Do NOT unduly bend or kink your graphic/s as you may permanently leave them with a crease.

Firstly, be sure to familiarise yourself with exactly where each graphic is designed to fit. Where both left handed and right handed graphics are being used – don't get them mixed up!

APPLICATION:

You may find it helpful to separate each graphic from the other graphics you have purchased, with a pair of good scissors.

Spray your smooth and clean worktop surface with plenty of soapy water. The area you spray must be larger than the single graphic you have chosen to apply first.

Thoroughly wet your hands, select your first graphic and hold it 'backing paper' side UP.

Taking great care – holding the graphic close to the wet worktop surface..... peel off the graphic (just a SMALL length at a time) and let it lay, adhesive side up, in the soapy water on the worktop surface.

Be aware that this is a 'gradual process' – NOT one where you peel off the whole graphic and lay it on to the wet surface or you risk getting it stuck together! See the 'Warning' below.

BE CERTAIN of understanding – you are now looking at the adhesive side of the graphic!

Now, with the graphic lying down on the work surface - spray the adhesive side with soapy water.

Having thoroughly cleaned the surface of the bike... now spray this area with plenty of soapy water. Where you have the opportunity to do so.... also spray the area just above where you are going to apply the graphic because this helps keep the actual lower area moist as it runs down.

!!!!!!!!!! WARNING !!!!!!!!!!! WARNING !!!!!!!!!!! WARNING !!!!!!!!!!! WARNING !!!!!!!!!!! WARNING !!!!!!!!!!! WARNING!!!!!!!!!!!!

If you allow the adhesive side of this material to "come in to contact with itself" – it is extremely likely that you will not be able to separate the two surfaces!!

With both the graphic and the appropriate area of the bike wet with soapy water – you can now carefully lay the graphic in to place.

IRRESPECTIVE OF THE STYLE OF GRAPHIC YOU ARE APPLYING, PLEASE BE VERY GENTLE WITH IT ALL TIMES, AND ALWAYS REMEMBER... WHEN IT IS WET – IT WON'T WANT TO ADHERE.

WHEN IT IS DRY(ING) – IT WILL STICK! IT WILL STICK!!!

Bearing in mind all of the above, you can understand why I suggest you are very gentle with it.

First and foremost, when you are putting the graphic on to the bike – be certain of placing it in the correct position.

Secondly, you need to 'tease' the soapy water away from the underside of the graphic and the surrounding area.... WITHOUT MOVING THE GRAPHIC!

Obviously, you also have to remove air from under the graphic and you will see 'air bubbles' until you have removed all air.

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Having got the graphic in its correct position and whilst 'teasing' the water and air away – be careful not to move the graphic! DON'T FORGET the LESS water you are working with – the more aggressive the adhesive becomes (and you don't want the graphic to stick until it is in the correct position).

You will find the credit card useful (protected with a soft cloth), when gently teasing the water and air bubbles away. You can also use the tissues when drying up excess water.

When you get to the stage of thinking that you have dispersed the water – DON'T start to 'get rough' with the graphic. It is highly probable that some water remains and therefore... it may slip out of position and stick on to the surrounding dry surface!

Remember – your main efforts should be in removing air bubbles as any small amount of water will dry out naturally e.g. overnight in a dry environment.

THROUGHOUT EVERY APPLICATION STAGE – BE GENTLE!!

OTHER TIPS FOR SPECIFIC REFLECTIVE KITS

FRONT FAIRING:

'V' graphic - firstly, position the bottom of the 'V' and work upwards on both sides of the 'V'.

Mirror graphics – concentrate on getting the whole graphic in its correct position but be prepared for finding that the lower most part will not want to adhere (when compared with the rest of the mirror graphic). This is only because there will be an amount of water on this lower part which wants to 'hang on' rather than dry out and stick. DO NOT worry about this. Just concentrate on getting the remaining parts of this mirror graphic stuck in to position first and when you are happy the graphic is stable – then you can give this lower part all of your attention (without fear of moving the whole graphic!). Don't forget – all the time that lower section is wet, it won't stick anyway!

SIDE FAIRING:

'Top' graphic.

I suggest you put your bike on its side stand and start with the right hand set of graphics.

Start with the top graphic. Concentrate on the front of it... and ensure it follows the contours and design of the fairing.

You will find that once you have the front curved shape of this top graphic in place – you will be able to tease the 'tails' of this graphic in to place.

'Bottom' graphic.

This graphic is much simpler in shape but, it also has a correct position.

Firstly – make a note of how far the front edge of the fairing TOP graphic is from the front edge of the fairing itself.

With the bottom graphic, there are two key areas to consider:

1. Make sure the front edge of this bottom graphic is the same distance from the front edge of the fairing as the distance you have left on the TOP graphic.

AND... at the same time

2. Make sure the bottom of this graphic runs parallel with the lower edge of the fairing and leave an even strip of paintwork showing of approx. 20-25mm wide.

I do hope you understand these 'positioning' guidelines but you can always have a look at photos on my web site for further help.

Cleaning your graphics... do not use anything abrasive or you will scratch them.

Ride Safe!