

Compare the Quality of our Vehicle Wraps to those of our Competitors!



Seamless Install

Wrapped Door Handles

**Straight, Even Cut
& Tucked Edges**

Weather Sealed

Perfectly Tucked Corners



Certified In-House Installers - Highest Quality Material - Longest Warranty in the Industry - No Scratches or Blade Markings

Looking for the best vehicle wrap installers in Southern California? Compare our vehicle wrap installation quality with other local companies.

Don't Settle for Less:

- * Custom-built enclosed clean print room (dust-free & temperature controlled)
- * Indoor installation facility
- * Minimal seams
- * Minimal stretch
- * High Performance Cast vinyl's - We use 3M and Avery
- * High gloss UV coated cast laminate
- * High resolution, wide format prints
- * In house from start to finish. Design, Print, Install
- * Installation and material warranty

Bumpers & Curves:

Curved areas of a vehicle such as bumpers and fenders are a dead give away of a novice installer. If rushed or un-experienced, an installer will make cuts with overlapping flaps to cheat the difficult areas. Unfortunately, this is only cheating you. Creating additional seams and overlaps in an area where the vinyl is already stretched almost always ends up with the vinyl peeling back up. Not only does this look bad, but it creates problem areas that will allow dirt and water to get in and starts a chain reaction dramatically decreasing the life span of your wrap.

Lights, Door Handles & Trimming

Cutting on a vehicle is something that takes a steady artistic hand, and practice. Lots of practice. The trick is to apply the right amount of pressure with the razor blade to score the vinyl enough to pull it apart, without going deep enough to cut the paint. You won't know if a novice installer has butchered your paint job until you remove the wrap. If done correctly, a wrap will actually preserve the paint and the resale value of your vehicle.

On certain areas we even use "Knifeless Tape" which eliminates the need of using a blade to perform the cut.

Alignment & Registration

Wraps are printed in multiple panels on 60" (most of our competitors can go up to only 54") wide vinyl film and applied by hand. Alignment during installation is achieved by a combination of bleed, or compensation in the design, and proper installation techniques. Below are examples of alignment on both overlapping panels and window graphics.

Many wrap companies simply do not cut out the details on a vehicle. Emblems and trim, and door handles should be removed or cut out to avoid issues with cracking and peeling. Not only does it look bad, but it significantly decreases the life span of your wrap.

What to look for when shopping for a wrap?



Whether you are beginning to explore the idea of vehicle wraps or other ways of exterior advertising, or are ready to start your project, Lucent Wraps can provide you with the advice and information you're looking for.

We can help you decide what products will be most effective for achieving your objectives. No matter what your vision, we can provide the design, materials and installation to make it become reality.

Our team bring over 15 years of experience from the graphic design, digital printing and graphic installation industries.

Digital Graphics on vehicles and other surfaces require full attention on the design, print and installation. From our in-house graphic installers to using the world's best printer and materials we take pride in what we do and it shows in every project we touch.

Material

There are many high and low quality vinyl manufacturers out there. At Lucent Wraps we only use the top brand names that have been around for years and offer the best car wrap vinyl: 3M and Avery.

Over the past few months we have noticed an increased use of low quality vinyl being offered by our competitors. Just like everything else, with car wraps you truly get what you pay for. If you care about quality and longevity of the wrap then you want to make sure that wrap shop is using a high quality vinyl...

You also need to keep in mind that simply stating that a 3M vinyl is being used it doesn't mean that particular vinyl is the right choice for your project. 3M and all other manufactures offer many different types of vinyl from high-quality, high-cost Cast Vinyl to lower performance, cheaper Calendered Vinyl.

Preparation

The most time consuming part of wrapping a vehicle is the prep process. This is where the installer has to go over every inch of your car's surface as well as under the weather trims, cracks, fenders to make sure they're 100% clean & wax free.

The car must be washed the day before & has to be dry. A special solution is used to wipe the car down completely to make sure any wax residue has been removed. Then again, using alcohol the car has to be wiped down to make sure the solution that was used to remove the wax has been removed (otherwise it will effect the adhesive of the vinyl).



The smallest dirt left behind could result in the vinyl's adhesive to fail & lift. A small lift will allow water to get under the wrap and eventually cause the entire wrap to fail.

Since this is the most time consuming part of the wrap it is also the least favorite part of the job for an installer and therefore most overlooked... specially by an independent installer that has been hired by a print shop to perform the installation.

Facility

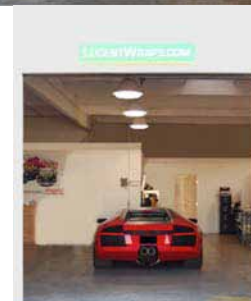
The question now is where will the actual installation take place? Indoor or Outdoors? Will the indoor facility be dust free and have the right temperature required by the vinyl manufacturer during installation?

If your wrap is being installed outdoor, well then you're to a terrible start. There is absolutely no way to keep large & small dust particles away from the surface of your car. The results can be noticed right away because even the smallest dust particle will show through the wrap and having thousands of them under your wrap will look like a layer of sand was put down before the wrapping of the car.



This not only looks terrible but large enough particles could cause holes & rips in the wrap and allowing water to leak under causing the wrap to fail.

If your vehicle is being wrapped indoors, well that's great, but the indoor facility must be super clean with some type of dust control and it must be at the right temperature. Installing a wrap at a high temperatures will cause it to over stretch and failure in long-term. Installing in a low temperature will cause the vinyl to shrink and eventually fail when it is exposed to high temperatures.



So a dedicated installation facility is extremely important to make sure the final outcome of the wrap is superb.

Installation

This is the last but the most important step of a car wrap.

You have a great material, your vehicle has been prepped perfectly and the facility is specifically designed for a vehicle wraps.

All of these factors could be totally destroyed if an inexperienced and unmotivated installer does the wrap.

Everyone seems to think that is easy to install a wrap, after all it is simply a giant sticker...Wrong. It takes countless hours and a lot of wasted material and money to learn the proper way to install a wrap. Each media has different characteristics, for example it is much more difficult to install a Matte White vinyl then it is to install a printed design wrap.



Different materials behave differently and therefore the installer must have extensive experience with various media.

Although the actual installation of the wrap is very difficult believe it or not the final trimming of the wrap is even more challenging. You can have the perfectly installed wrap but if the excess material is not trimmed and tucked properly the final outcome will look terrible.

Trimming the wrap requires a steady hand, a lot of patience and technique. This is what sets an excellent installer apart from a good installer. Making the wrap to look like a paint job is what's all about.

Post Installation

Now you might think well we're done, the wrap has been installed and trimmed perfectly, I am ready to enjoy my car... again Wrong.

This is the step that is most overlooked by installers because it is the most time consuming and most boring part of the install.

The installer now using a Heath-Gun (not a torch) must go over the areas of the wrap that are recessed or curved and using digital thermometer to ensure every inch of these areas reaches a certain degree as required by the manufacturer. (Solid color wrap need to reach a 45 to 50 degree Celsius and printed media must reach 85 to 90 degree Celsius).

The reason for this is because all wrap vinyl has PVC as part of their ingredients. PVC allows the vinyl to have a memory, so when is overstretched and heated it will go back to its original shape.



That is a great feature, however once the wrap is installed you do not want the vinyl to go back to its original shape, this means it will shrink and pull back.

The only way to kill the PVC memory is to make sure the areas that are stretched or under pressure reach that specific temperature. This will ensure the vinyl will hold its shape & not retract from its position.

NOW we are done, well almost done... let's say all the above factors were met and performed perfectly, what happens if you still have issues with your wrap? Customer service is the only thing you can depend on, so choosing a reputable wrap shop becomes the most important part of your decision making process.

At Lucent Wraps we not only meet but exceed all the above requirements. We even ask that our customers to return with their vehicles in about two weeks so we can check the entire wrap to ensure is meeting our requirements. And if it doesn't we'll re-do it until it does.

We hope this document will helped you with your decision making process. For a free consultation please feel free to call or email us: 949-334-3533 info@lucentwraps.com

