



Bird Safe Window Films: Tech Bulletin

WingSafe® Bird Protection Film Installation

Solar Gard®'s WingSafe bird protection films are coated with a very durable hard acrylic coating to make an easy installation possible using standard window film installation methods.

Below are the practices to ensure proper installation of this product. Installation of this product is not recommended on extremely windy days or when temperatures fall below 40° F (5°C).

NOTE: WINGSafe PRODUCTS DO NOT REQUIRE AN EDGE SEALANT TO BE APPLIED TO THE EDGES OF THE FILM FOR WARRANTY COVERAGE

Additional installation Technical Bulletin you may find helpful:

- Filmhandler Setup and Operational Best Practices, PDF0256FHSETUP

Tools required:

1. Spray bottle or pressure sprayer
2. Slip solution: Slip & Stick or preferred slip aid
3. Lint free towels
4. White scrubbie pad
5. Utility knife (snap off blade type)
6. 6-inch Triumph scraper
7. Glass cleaning squeegee
8. Mounting solution removal squeegee (specifically designed for Architectural or safety & security films)
9. Five-way tool or hard card
10. Filmhandler (optional)

Mounting solution

The mounting solution is a key ingredient in successfully applying bird protection films. The solution is used to prevent the adhesive from sticking to the glass while positioning the film during installation. A starting mix is provided in the following table. The ratio will depend on the environmental conditions as well as slip preference for positioning purposes. It is not uncommon for the exterior glass surface to create a higher initial tack than an interior glass surface. If the film is not sliding enough, increase the amount of slip aid. Warmer conditions may require more slip aid while cold conditions require less slip aid.

Sprayer Type	Water	S&S (slip aid)
Spray Bottle	1 Quart (.95 Liter)	.5-1 teaspoon* (3-6 milliliters)
Small Pressure Sprayer	2 Quarts (1.9 Liters)	1-2 teaspoons (6-12 milliliters)
Large Pressure Sprayer	3 Gallon (11.4 Liters)	6-12 teaspoons (36-72 milliliters)

* Slip & Stick single pump = .5 tsp (3 mL)

1: Pattern - the process of cutting film to near or exact window daylight opening size

- a. Measure the height and width of glass surface.
- b. For manual cutting, add 1" (2.5cm) to each dimension and cut the film.

When considering measurements for your pattern, you will need to consider how the pattern dimensions are spaced around the perimeter to ensure the pattern is centered in the daylight opening or consistent window to window. Refer to the table below to calculate your edge spacing. For example, a 45" wide window will result in a 1/2" space from each edge on the WingSafe Dot.

Calculation steps:

1. $45/2 = 22.5$ (22 dots fit in the opening)
2. $22 * 2 = 44$ (44 inch area covered by dots)
3. $(45 - 44) / 2 = 1/2"$ (spacing on sides)

Spacing Guide	
Product	Pattern Spacing
WingSafe Dot	2 inch
WingSafe Horizontal	1 inch
WingSafe Vertical	3 inch
All Others	2 1/8 inch

TIP: Cutting film so the top edge has a straight edge (factory film edge) greatly eases installation. Using a Filmhandler allows film to be cut to size reducing waste and providing multiple straight edges.

- c. For immediate installation, roll film with liner facing inward until the roll is about 2" (5 cm) in diameter. To precut for installation at a later time, roll film with liner out. This prevents liner tunneling during storage.
- d. To prevent unrolling apply tape.

2: Prep - the process of cleaning the window area including glass and frame and preparing film for installation

- a. Apply the cleaning solution to the glass and thoroughly scrub the surface using a white scrub pad.
- b. Squeegee the glass from top to bottom.
- c. Spray solution on the glass and using a large razor scraper, scrape the glass from top to bottom.

NOTE: If you hear a scratching sound, STOP using the razor scraper and clean only with scrubbie pad.

- d. Spray solution on the glass and wipe the edges and frame with a lint free towel.
- e. Using the cleaning squeegee, squeegee the glass from top to bottom.
- f. Repeat cleaning steps as needed until you are confident the glass is clean.

Optional: Pre-Cutting Film

- a. Spray solution on the glass and position the film on the glass with the liner facing the glass
- b. Center your pattern in the daylight opening. If the factory edge of the film is used, space approx. 1/8-inch (3mm) away from frame or gasket.
- c. Tack the film to the glass using a squeegee.
- d. Use the utility knife to cut the film to the exact size of the daylight opening (Refer to steps f-g of step 3 of this guide)
- e. Set the film aside and squeegee the glass clean.

3: Install - The process of applying the film to the glass

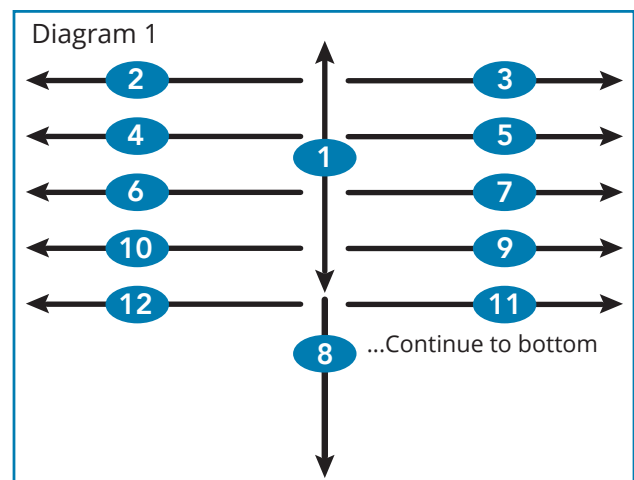
- a. Spray the glass liberally with solution to achieve complete and uniform wetness.

TIP: Do not spray solution into the top edge as contaminants can flow down the glass.

- b. Remove liner from the film. For easy liner removal, tape opposite sides of a corner and separate.
- c. For full liner removal you will need to spray the adhesive surface of the film with slip solution. Check

that no dry spots are on the glass or the film and spray as needed. For reverse roll method, ensure there are no dry spots on the glass.

- d. Apply film to glass surface aligning the straight edge of the film with the corresponding frame edge. The other edges of the film should overlap the frame about 1/2" (12mm). If the option to precut was used, ensure the film aligns correctly with all edges ensuring a small gap is visible between the films edge and gasket or frame.
- e. Spray slip solution on the film and using the solution removal squeegee, using both hands and applying firm, consistent pressure, squeegee following the strokes indicated in diagram 1 to tack the film to the window. To prevent water trails, ensure each squeegee stroke overlaps the previous pass by 50 to 75%. When squeegeeing towards an overlapped edge stop short of where the films adhesive is making contact with the glass. This will prevent contamination from the frame getting under the film. Exterior conditions may require spraying additional mounting solution during the squeegee process.
- f. If the option to precut was used, proceed to the "Finish" stage of this guide otherwise, once the film is tacked to the glass, using a utility knife, cut the corners at a 45-degree angle. This will prevent creasing when trimming the edges in the next step.
- g. Remove overlapping material using a utility knife.
- h. Spray solution on the film and squeegee the edges. Squeegeeing along the frame edge will reduce the chance of contamination being picked up by the squeegee which could scratch the film requiring film replacement.



TIP: Apply the removed liner over the film to protect it during the squeegee process. If the reverse roll method was used, the liner will be mostly covering the film after unrolling.

4: Finish

- a. Using a five-way tool or hard card wrapped in a lint free towel systematically work around the window to dry the edges of the film and frame. Rotate towel frequently to reduce the chance of scratching due to contamination from the frame and maximize solution absorption. Repeat until the perimeter of the window has been completely dried.
- b. Step back a few feet and inspect the installation directly on and from an angle. You should not have any large water pockets. If you do, carefully push them out with your finishing tool. Caution should be taken here as pushing any mounting solution through adhesive that has already adhered to the window is the primary cause of adhesive damage that is permanent and cannot be corrected. If possible, it's best to leave large water bubbles alone; in most cases they will eventually resolve themselves as the water permeates the film.

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PDF0250SGWS 09/26

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