



Designing for Vehicle Wraps

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General Notes

- Designer Wraps keeps over many vehicle templates on file. If you would like to use one of our templates, they are available to our current customers at no charge. Please contact your account manager for more information.
- Remember that you are designing on a flat surface (a computer screen), but it will be applied to a 3D vehicle. Some variance will occur.
- Check states' standards for window graphics on vehicles BEFORE having them wrapped. Designer Wraps is not liable for any graphics that cause obstruction.
- Make note of corners, door handles, obstacles, etc. when designing graphics. These areas are not forgiving for text and line art.

Designing For Vinyl Wraps

When designing your wrap, you should expect 1" to 3" of placement variance from your mock-up due to the nature of vinyl wrapping. Some variance will occur.

Mouldings & Bumpers

It is best to think of only the metal and glass areas on your vehicle as wrappable areas. Rubber window mouldings, certain plastic bumpers, etc. cannot be wrapped with vinyl. Consider these areas when designing your wrap.

Window Coverage

Most states do not allow graphics to be put on the front-side windows or the front windshield. When designing your vehicle wrap, do not include graphics on the front-side windows or the front windshield. You should always check with state or federal regulations regarding window coverage.

Other windows can be wrapped in a perforated material allowing the passengers to see out while still allowing those outside to view the graphic. It should be noted, however, that the graphic on the perforated material does appear slightly lighter than that on the solid vinyl, preventing it from matching your solid vinyl exactly. It also distorts vision & clarity slightly from the inside-looking out.

Corners And Other Tricky Areas

Blending images and colors from the sides to the back or front is NOT recommended. Each side should be treated as a separate canvas. If you are blending from one color to another, we recommend blending (or "fading") into a solid color that will wrap around the sharp corners.

Having lines of type fall in very critical areas is not generally successful (around wheel wells, around door handles, etc). Vehicle fronts do not usually offer much area to design a message. Utilize the flat hood for the design. The rest of the front area (bumpers, sides of hood) should be an extension of the design background or color.

Vehicle Wrap Care

Vehicles that have been wrapped can withstand many elements. However, to take full advantage of a vehicle wrap, please follow these guidelines.

- Do not 'power wash' any vehicle with a vinyl wrap. The pressure of the water can cause damage to the wrap and will void any warranty (if applicable).
- Keep the vehicle clean. Dirt will inevitably find the seams and cause the wrap to peel prematurely.

Designing For Curvy Vehicles

Curvy vehicles (such as VW Bugs or PT Cruisers) look great wrapped but are a bit more challenging. Designer Wraps is experienced in measuring, photographing, designing and installing 'curvy' vehicle wraps. For the best curvy vehicle wrap:

- Pick a solid base color.
- Use a background that will be forgiving when installing. Linear lines or hard breaks should not be used as we cannot guarantee the final result will fall exactly as in the mock-up.
- Any exact type placement should be done as separate cut vinyl. There are generally few flat areas on a 'curvy' vehicle. It is best to keep the design large and dynamic, not small and detailed.

Ready to send us artwork? Please see our File Specifications sheet for the proper way to do so.