CHEETAHPCC™
PROTECTIVE COLOR CHANGE

PATENT PENDING

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS



IMPORTANT NOTE

CheetahPCC™ is a dry-install film that is scientifically different from traditional color change vinyl. Because of this, it is important to install the product using slightly different methods than vinyl.

Being a thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU), CheetahPCC will appear to stretch significantly more than traditional color change films; however, don't let this fool you. When installing any TPU film, you should avoid using heat on initial stretch and you should never stretch the film more than 10% during installation. You will only use heat during Post-Heating of the product, which you will learn in Step 3 as you continue through these Installation Instructions.

Once familiar with the technique, many people find that CheetahPCC installs more easily than traditional color change vinyl. The end result is a product that is more durable than vinyl with a better-than-paint aesthetic, a horizontal warranty, and true rock chip protection. When the time comes, you will also find that CheetahPCC de-installs much faster than traditional color change vinyl.

Step 1: Surface Prep

Surface prep is similar to vinyl installation, with a few key differences:

a. Remove any vehicle parts you plan to take off before installation.

b. Thoroughly clean the vehicle surface, removing all oil, tar, and bug residue, as these can interfere with adhesive bonding. The two-bucket cleaning method is recommended.

c. Ensure your workspace is clean and free of dust. This is especially important when removing the cap sheet (found only on gloss films), as it can create static that attracts dust.

d. Once the car has been cleaned and clay-barred, wipe the entire vehicle surface down a final time with isopropyl alcohol. Let the alcohol fully evaporate or wipe it dry using a lint-free microfiber cloth.

Pro Tip #1: Lightly mist the surface of the film with a sprayer and remove the cap sheet prior to bringing it to the surface of the vehicle to avoid capturing any dust attracted by static. Be careful not to spray the adhesive side of the film.

Pro Tip #2: Tack reducers such as Triple-S can help the film from bonding too aggressively with the paint surface. This helps minimize the risk of lift lines, tunneling, or sanding during installation. After applying the solution, allow it to dry naturally—typically within 2 to 3 minutes.

Pro Tip #3: Avoid applying a tack reducer to critical areas such as edges, corners, and deep recesses. Apply primarily to large surfaces areas and high points where pre-tack is unavoidable.

Step 2: Installation

a. Aim to stretch the film less than 10% and apply it with the proper tension without repositioning it when possible. Identify evenly distributed tack points, typically on adjacent panels, then proceed in the following order: PEAKS (body lines), RECESSES (valleys/concave), and FLATS (flat sections). This method ensures that areas remain un-tacked where needed, allowing air and material to move freely while preventing adhesive distortion. For larger panels, working with two installers is recommended.

   i. **Important! DO NOT USE HEAT to stretch, conform, or press the film into concave areas.** Refer to Step 3 for when and how heat should be properly applied.

   ii. The film will stretch with a steady hand and no heat. Avoid overstretching—limit stretch to 10% to reduce the risk of fingers, stretch marks, glue lines, orange peel, or distortion.

   iii. For complex, recessed areas, feed the material in gradually rather than stretching it over the surface area and tenting like a vinyl install. Avoid applying excessive tension, as this increases the risk of failure. Primer may be required in select areas at the installer's discretion to enhance adhesion.

b. Use a squeegee to work from the center outward.

   i. If repositioning is required, do not lift the film straight up at a 90-degree angle or snap it up abruptly. Instead, gently lift and adjust to prevent adhesive distortion or edge lifting. Never lift areas that have already been squeegeed or pressure-tacked, as this can compromise the adhesive.

   ii. Avoid placing your fingers on the adhesive that will be touching the vehicle as this could cause adhesive failure due to oil, dust, or dirt from your hands.

c. For larger trapped air bubbles, gently lift the film and use a squeegee to push the air out. Since TPU is a softer material, avoid applying excessive pressure with the squeegee. Also, try to minimize the use of sharp angles during installation whenever possible.

d. If the film extends beyond the edges, corners should be lightly stretched outward and downward on both sides, then released. When done correctly, the PCC will spring back and settle neatly underneath the corner.

Pro Tip: Identify evenly distributed tack points to limit excessive tension in the film. While tension is necessary to remove wrinkles prior to applying squeegee pressure, most of the tension should be spread across large, flat areas and should be avoided along edges and recesses.

Step 3: Post Heating

a. **Target surface temperature:**
   i. 113°C – 135°C; we highly recommend this temperature be reached across the entire film surface and installers may use an IR lamp to accomplish this.
   ii. Move the heat source slowly and consistently across panels to avoid: uneven heating, cold spots, and overheating.
   iii. Continuously monitor surface temperature using a laser digital thermometer.

b. **Critical areas requiring PINPOINT heat:**
   i. Edges, corners, deep recesses, seams, mirror housings, bumper contours, and complex curves.
   ii. These critical areas require the film be heated to a temperature of 113°C – 135°C; not to exceed 135°C.

c. **Corner Locking Procedure:**
   i. Once heated, immediately press and set the corner firmly into place. Use a wrap glove or roller to ensure full adhesion.
   ii. Corners may require additional heat, but should not exceed 135°C.
   iii. A slight surface melt is acceptable and often recommended to help the film lock into the corner.

⚠ **IMPORTANT:** Build up heat slowly as **NOT** to burn the material. Do **NOT** cut this film on a vehicle.

d. **Edge rolling & stabilization before final trim:**
   i. Roll all edges firmly using fingers and wrap glove.
   ii. Bring edges to the 113°C – 135°C post-heat temperature.
   iii. This stabilizes the adhesive and helps the film settle into its final shape.

Pro Tip #1: Post-heating edges before trimming help ensure proper adhesion, reduced tension in the material, and long-term hold.

Pro Tip #2: If you notice signs of overstretching, the panel will require re-installation to ensure proper long-term adhesion and performance.

Pro Tip #3: Due to the thickness and self-healing properties of TPU, it is not recommended to cut film on the vehicle surface. Should you need to cut the film while against the vehicle, it is recommended to only use 3M Precision Line Knifeless tape or another like produce with a metal or carbon filament to ensure smooth and consistent cuts.

Pro Tip #4: CheetahPCC is pre-ceramic coated at the factory. Because of this, you cannot do overlaps or overlays without first properly preparing the film surface. To prepare the surface, we recommend using blue masking tape to tape off the area where you do not want to prep. Using a scuffing pad, carefully scuff the surface of the film where you would like to do an overlap or overlay. This scuffing will remove the ceramic coating while the tape will prevent you from removing the coating in the wrong area. We recommend that you then use a primer on the scuffed area.

Final quality check:
- ☑ Verify all panels reached proper temperature range.
- ☑ Inspect all wrapped areas; edges, corners, and recesses.
- ☑ Confirm no lifting, fingers, or tension points remain.

NOTICE: Any vehicle you install should be kept in a temperature controlled environment for a minimum of 24 hours. This will allow the film and adhesive to properly bond to the surface.

After Care

1. Although the vehicle is now protected with paint protection film, regular cleaning is still essential. Contaminants like bird droppings and tree sap can damage the film if left on for extended periods. It's recommended to promptly wipe off any debris and regularly clean the surface using a microfiber cloth. A quick detail spray, such as Meguiar's Quick Detailer or a similar product, can also be used to maintain the finish.

2. If there's a noticeable change in the hydrophobic properties, it is recommend to reapply a ceramic coating as needed.

DISCLAIMER
CheetahWrap, its affiliates, and distributors are not liable for damage or issues resulting from improper installation. We strongly recommend watching our short installation video before beginning the application process.

INSTALLATION TOOLS & MATERIALS NEEDED

