

SignGold .999 SILVER & NICKEL THERMAL TRANSFER/SCREEN PRINTABLE

PRELIMINARY

SignGold .999 Silver & Nickel film can be cut with one of many plotters on the market. This authentic silver & nickel material is NOT warranted for use outside. Having said that, many signmakers are using it outside on fire trucks, boats, and signs of all kinds. The key to using it outdoors is making sure no moisture gets behind or into the edges of the silver & nickel. Read the SEALING AND FINISHING section below for important details. Our .999 Silver & Nickel have a 10 year warranty for indoor applications as long as all technical information is followed.

THERMAL PRINTING

When setting up machine for printing, use the traditional setting used for high performance vinyl. Many printers are defaulted or set and need no changes. It is advisable to run a test before beginning actual job.

Make sure the material is free of contaminants which could cause poor printing results. Make sure material is dust-free. If using an Edge ll or FX printer, it is advisable to run at Edge 1 speed to insure good printing results.

If candy effects are desired, use translucent color foils which allow the SignGold patterned film to show through color. If choosing to go more opaque when using color, use a primer foil first and then print over it with the top color which hides the patterned vinyl. Results are outstanding. Create your own ideas using various color choices.

*Always make a test print and cut first before proceeding with the job.

CUTTING

Always make a "test cut" before cutting, at least until you have become familiar with .999 silver & nickel properties.

ALWAYS USE A SHARP BLADE. Cutting an upper case Helvetica "A" or "N" serves as a great test for blade sharpness.

A standard angle blade used for cutting standard PVC vinyl is fine; no special blade is needed...cuts like butter. Our silver product cuts and weeds as good or better than a good quality high performance cast vinyl.

Never cut silver & nickel too deep...Just enough pressure to kiss-cut the material so weeding is easy. Cutting too deep into the poly-liner can cause the adhesive to settle into the cuts thus causing difficulty in getting the silver & nickel to release from the liner.

Never allow silver & nickel to be rolled backwards (with the release liner to the outside). Try to keep the material flat as it goes through your cutter to keep down the chance of tunneling. Always cut material at room temperature and do not cut material during cold temperatures below 50 degrees as premature release from the liner resulting in tunneling is possible. **SEE REVERSE SIDE**

WEEDING

Weeding silver or nickel is actually easier than weeding many high performance vinyls. It is recommended that you weed your job immediately after cutting. Do not leave for the next day.

APPLICATION

Silver & Nickel MUST be applied DRY. Using fluid of any kind jeopardizes the material by introducing moisture which will tarnish the material over time.

Use a "medium to high" tack application tape. On letters or graphics taller than 8 inches, a "high" tack tape is recommended. Using a translucent application tape like Transferite clear 1310 or R-Tape clear medium tack Conform series will make registration to your outline easier.

To insure good adhesion on vehicles, silver & nickel are best applied over high performance cast vinyl like Gerber/3M 220 series vinyl. On dark color vehicles, high performance cast vinyl is highly suggested under the silver. If it is necessary to remove the silver or nickel later for some reason, it removes much easier because the high performance cast material is under the silver or nickel.

NEVER APPLY SILVER OR NICKEL MATERIAL OVER WATER-BASED OR LATEX FINISHES.

When applying silver or nickel to acrylic or polycarbonate sheets, remove substrate protective sheeting and allow surface to outgas at least 24 hours before applying the silver or nickel product.

Applying silver or nickel over wood or HDU (high-density urethane), the surface must be sealed using an oil-based or epoxy coating to restrict moisture exposure from behind the silver or nickel. We recommend West Systems Epoxy #105 Resin with the appropriate hardner.

SEALING & FINISHING

Silver & Nickel must be protected extremely well around the edges in particular to keep out ANY moisture. Our silver & nickel is protected with an excellent clear (PVF Film) on the surface. Used inside or outside, silver & nickel must be edge sealed completely.

EDGE SEALING WITH ONE SHOT 4005 or 3M Edge Sealer 3950 IS REQUIRED; edge seal using a traditional brush application to achieve best coverage and protection. Use a liberal coating to insure .999 Silver or Nickel edges are COMPLETELY sealed to the vehicle background or vinyl if an outline is used.

Quick Clear Tedlar® Laminate, 3M 8519, 3M 8528 and OraCal 290 CLEAR LAMINATES can be used by overlapping edge 1/4" to act as an edge seal. Other laminates may be fine but test first. Note that some laminates are 5 year products and some 8-9 year products--Choose wisely for your expected durability requirements. Do not use calendered laminates with Quick-Sign Gold Products. Use the best high performance clear laminate possible.

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