

Use this cleaning method to prepare painted wallboard for enhanced adhesion of adhesive-backed film.

Important Note	For your safety, always wearing protective eye wear and disposable gloves when cleaning walls.
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A. Cleaning Procedure

1. Clean stubborn grease and grime with your preferred method.
2. Prepare a cleaning solution with 70% Isopropyl Alcohol (IPA) and 30% water in a spray bottle.
3. Soak a clean, lint-free cloth with the cleaning solution until it is dripping wet.



FIGURE 1 Soaking a Lint-free Cloth

4. Clean the test (or application) area with overlapping strokes. You may notice some migrated paint particles on the cloth.



FIGURE 2 Paint Particles After First Cleaning

Important Note	Change cleaning cloths often to avoid redepositing contaminants on another part of the wall. Soak each new cloth with the cleaning solution.
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5. Thoroughly soak another clean, lint-free cloth with the cleaning solution and wash the wall again.
6. The alcohol in the cleaning solution will lower the surface temperature of the substrate as much as 10 degrees—a noticeable difference. When the alcohol has completely flashed off, which takes about 10 minutes, the substrate will return to its normal temperature. You can use an IR gun to accurately measure the temperature before cleaning and immediately after cleaning, or simply touch the back of your hand to the cleaned area. When it no longer feels cool, it is dry and you can proceed with the film adhesion test, or if you are ready, with the film installation.

BEFORE CLEANING



IMMEDIATELY AFTER CLEANING



FIGURE 3 Testing Wall Temperature

Pro's Tip

1. Mask off large sections of the application area and clean one area at a time to be sure you don't miss any areas.
2. Cleaning the application area can reduce the gloss of the paint. Mask off the size of the graphic and clean only within that area.

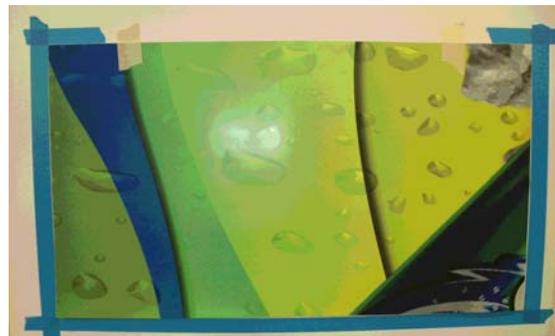


FIGURE 4 Clean Within Taped Area

B. Establish this Best Practice

3M recommends establishing this cleaning method as a best practice for every film adhesion test as well as every actual film installation.

C. Time Study for Job Estimating

In a time study, we determined that this cleaning method takes about 30 minutes for 125 square feet (approximately an 8 foot x 16 foot wall). Keep this in mind as you estimate your next job. It will be time well spent.