

RAIL GRAPHICS SUPERFLEX thin decal film is made of modern materials which have a stable shelf life. Unused decals will last many years if stored in a cool, dry place.

MODEL SURFACE PREPARATION

For the best results, decals should be applied to a glossy surface. We have found Badger Model-Flex, Floquil Poly Scale, Scalecoat, and Scalecoat II, paints to be excellent, as they dry to a glossy finish.

When our decals are applied to these paints, the clear film virtually disappears.

If you are using a flat paint such as Floquil, it is best to coat the painted model with a clear, gloss overcoat. Allow this overcoat to dry thoroughly (3-4 days or until the odor of solvents disappears). Always wait until the odor of paint has disappeared before applying your decals.



APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To apply **RAIL GRAPHICS** decals, first cut out the decal as close as possible to the printed material. We suggest you use an x-acto knife. The less clear decal film you have around the printing, the better. Place the trimmed decal into a dish of warm water and allow to soak until the backing paper falls off. On larger decals you may have to nudge the decal to get the paper to fall off. Continue to soak the decal to dissolve any residue glue from the backing paper. *NOTE: The glue applied to the backing paper is used to facilitate the release of the decal film from the paper. The glue does NOT make the decal stick to the model.*

SOLVENT APPLICATION

In order for the decals to nestle down over the details of the model, recommend the use of Solvaset. We suggest two methods for applying the solvent to the model.

The **FLOATING METHOD** floats the decal onto the solvent. Determine where the decal is to be placed on the model and apply the solvent with a small brush. Using a tweezers, carefully remove the decal from the water. Run it along the edge of the dish to remove excess water. Place the decal on the model making sure that it is "floating" on the solvent. This floating method will eliminate most of the air bubbles under the decal. If you find that the decal begins to soften too soon for you to arrange in its final position, then we recommend the **CAPILLARY METHOD**.

The **CAPILLARY METHOD** allows the solvent to flow under the decal through capillary action. Remove the decal from the water as you would have using the floating method. Place it on the model without any solvent. With a tissue, carefully blot any excess water. Using a small brush, apply the decal solvent to the edges of the decal. The solvent will flow under the decal. Apply solvent to all edges to ensure complete saturation of the decal.

Regardless of which method you use, repeated applications of solvent may be needed to help the decal contract around rivets and other details. If bubbles appear under the film, prick them with a straight pin and apply a small amount of solvent to the area. *NOTE: Do not allow large drops of solvent to sit on the decal film. If this occurs, use the tip of a tissue to absorb the excess. Drops of this type may cause the decal to distort and break down the inks.*

After decals are dry, take a water dampened cotton swab and remove any traces of residue decal solvent from the model. Finish off the model with a flat cover coat. We recommend Badger Modelflex Clear Flat. Other dull cover coats will also work. This will hide the shine of the decal film, plus give the model a realistic dull appearance. Weathering may be applied to represent the age and service of the model.

TOOLS TO APPLY DECALS		DECAL SOLVENTS	GLOSS COATS (USE ONE)	DULL COATS (USE ONE)
Scissors	Facial Tissue	Solvaset*	Floquil Crystal Cote	Badger Modelflex
X-acto Knife	Toothpicks	Micro-sol	Floquil Hi-Gloss	Clear Flat*
Tweezers	Straight Pins	Micro-set	Floquil Glaze	Floquil Flat Finish
Cotton Swabs	Paint Brush	Decal-set	Testors Glosscoat	Testors Dullcoat

*Recommended